

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Editorial and Executive Office: 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

Vol. XXII, No. 6.

FRIDAY, February 10, 1956

United States 1 year \$2.50; 3 years \$5.00
Canada and foreign 1 year \$3.00; 3 years \$6.50

'All Things Are Ready: Come'

By Charles H. Spurgeon, London, 1834-1892

"A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it. I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper."—Luke 14:16-24.

"Come; for all things are now ready." This invitation was first of all made to the Jews, but it seems to me to have a peculiar appropriateness to ourselves. It is later in the day than when first the Lord was here, and therefore the suppers are evidently closer at hand. The shadows lengthen, the sun of the present dispensation is nearing its setting; by nearly nineteen hundred years has its day been shortened since first the Lord sent forth His servants at suppers. The fullness of time for the marriage supper of the Lamb must speedily arrive. And if all things could be said to be ready even in our Saviour's day, we may say it with still greater emphasis now; for when Jesus delivered this parable the Holy Spirit was not given, but Pentecost has now passed, and the Spirit of God abideth with us to accompany the Word, to fill it with power and to bless our souls as we feed upon the truth. Very emphatically then at this time all things are now ready, and the supper awaits the guests. I pray you do not begin to make excuses, but be prepared to follow us when we bid you come, to go with us when we seek to bring you in, or at least to yield to our entreaties when with all the sacred violence of love we would compel you to come in.



Charles H. Spurgeon

Invitation and Argument

There are two things clearly in the text, and these have a close relation to one another. A plain invitation—"Come," and then a forcible argument—"for all

(Continued on page 8)

Read This Offer

Preachers, Students, Sunday School Teachers, Christian Workers and Any Others Can Get FREE the 20-Volume "Spurgeon's Sermons . . . Memorial Library" for Only 30 Subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. An Amazing Bargain!

By Robert L. Sumner, Associate Editor

I can honestly say that I have never written an article with more genuine enthusiasm and eager anticipation than this one! With all my heart I am convinced that I am introducing the greatest offer THE SWORD OF THE LORD has ever made in its entire 20-odd-year history. For that reason, I confidently expect a tremendous response on the part of bargain-wise readers who know a good thing when they hear it.

Are you familiar with Spurgeon? Charles Hadden Spurgeon, or "the great Charlie" as the British people of his day affectionately called him, is still known the world around as "the Prince of Preachers" more than 60 years after his death. Probably the greatest preacher and most effective soul winner since the days of the apostles—excluding the famous evangelists such as Moody, Finney and Torrey—his writings are still as fresh, applicable and delightfully refreshing as the day they first appeared in print. This acknowledged master pulpiteer, in addition to publishing more than 1900 different sermons during his lifetime, founded a Pastors' College, managed a children's orphanage, distributed tons of gospel tracts through his colporteur's association, and pastored one of the world's largest Baptist churches, the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London. His ministry was truly phenomenal!

Are you familiar with Spurgeon's "Memorial Library"? Dr. Robert G. Lee said of it: "To describe and properly evaluate the sermons of Charles H. Spurgeon

(Continued on page 4)

COMMUNISM AND THE HISTORIC CHRISTIAN FAITH

An address delivered August 10, 1954 at the International Council of Christian Churches Third Plenary Congress, Philadelphia.

By Dr. Allan A. MacRae
President, Faith Theological Seminary

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. 28:18-20.

I shall arrange what I have to say today about "Communism and the Historic Christian Faith" under six heads.

I. The Only Real Solution for the World's Economic and Social Ills Is to Be Found in the Historic Christian Faith

Christianity came into a world which was filled with oppression and cruelty. Great masses of people were held as slaves, often brutally beaten, and sometimes

killed, simply at the whim of their owners. The Roman emperors ruled in arbitrary fashion over all the nations which they had conquered, often brutally oppressing and torturing, not only members of the conquered nations, but also citizens of Rome as well. Moral conditions were bad, and the social organization was full of injustice. In this situation, Christians began to preach the Gospel of individual salvation through

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"Behold the Man"

John 19:5

How God Must Become Man to Save Men

By Dr. John R. Rice, Editor



Christ is the Son of God. This is so often and so clearly stated in the Bible that one must be an infidel not to believe it. There is no room in Christianity for anybody who does not accept fully the fact that Christ is God. One who does not believe that is not a Christian but a pagan. Jesus Himself said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). He said, "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58). The Father from Heaven at least twice audibly declared that Christ was His own Son (Matt. 3:17; Matt. 17:5). The Old Testament prophets foretold that Jesus, the Son who was to be born, would be called "The mighty God, The everlasting Father" (Isa. 9:6). The apostles joined in the same claim. John's Gospel was written to prove that Christ was the Son of God (John 20:31). We are told that Christ was in the beginning with God and that Christ Himself was the Creator of all things—that "without Him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3). By Him God made the worlds (Heb. 1:2). About Christ it is said in Colossians 1:15-19:

"Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: for by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he

is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the pre-eminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell."

We are told that Christ is the express image of the person of God (Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:15) and that it is the will of the Father that our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, should have the pre-eminence in all things, that everything in Heaven and in earth should be subject to Him. Christ is eternal God, equal with the Father, and we are commanded to love Him, trust Him, worship Him and obey Him as God. All judgment is given into His hands. To Him every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess. Christ is God!

The deity of Christ is a fact as obvious as that there is a God. The man who says Christ is not God is exactly the same kind of a fool as the fool that says in his heart there is no God (Ps. 14:1; Luke 24:25). Every unclean spirit Jesus ever met admitted His deity and more than once they cried in effect, "I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God" (Mark 1:24, 34; Mark 3:11; Luke 8:28). The Jews hated Christ and attempted to kill Him, because "He made himself equal with God" (John 5:18). Their charge before Pilate on which He was crucified was that "by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God" (John 19:7). Christ is the miraculously conceived, virgin-born, pre-existent Son of God. Let every lover of the Lord Jesus hold fast to this foundation doctrine and call no man a Christian brother who denies that Christ is what He claimed to be, the very Son of God.

But He Called Himself "The Son of Man"

It is not hard to make intelligent, honest people believe that (Continued on page 6)

Great Thought Nuggets

I will not doubt, though all my ships at sea
Come drifting home with broken masts and sails;
I shall believe the Hand which never fails
From seeming evil worketh good for me;
And though I weep because those sails are battered,
Still will I cry, while my best hopes lie shattered,
"I trust in Thee."

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.



Dr. Allan A. MacRae

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

Preachers! Don't forget to meet me in Miami February 19-26 at the Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning at Sylvania Heights Baptist Church. Beds are furnished for preachers by the church. Write: Rev. Wayne Van Gelderen, 5859 S. W. 16th Street, Miami 44, Florida, time of arrival, how many coming, when you will leave, etc. Speakers: Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., Dr. Sam Morris, Editor John R. Rice. Wonderful music, heart-moving stirrings of revival.

Not Too Late to Have "SWORD Sunday"

Did you get in on plans for "Sword of the Lord Sunday" with other churches on February 5? If not, why not set your own time now? Write us for free samples of THE SWORD and subscription envelopes which you will need, and the special group price. Conditions are that you will (1) have a three to five-minute talk about THE SWORD OF THE LORD and its advantages, urging people to subscribe—this talk in one of the main Sunday services; (2) that you will give out samples in the services to all who wish them; (3) that you will appoint some responsible person to accept subscriptions during service or after, and mail to us. Set your own "SWORD Sunday" and write us, please, at once.

Help Prepare These Ministerial Students

Thousands of dollars worth of our best books are going out to bona fide ministerial students now in Christian colleges. Since Christmas there has been a great increase in requests. The books offered are carefully chosen. Every ministerial student is in actual training now. Every one promises to read the books.

We are depending on God who said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38). We can save America from modernism, from false cults, from worldliness and sin in proportion as we save the preachers. If God puts it on your heart to help, write to us and send your gift to the Sword Free Literature Fund, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

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You may buy with confidence!



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Subscription rates: \$2.50 per year, \$5 for three years. Canada and foreign countries \$3.00 a year, \$6.50 for three years.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Newton, Kansas, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Office of Publication: The Sword of the Lord, 131 W. 6th St., Newton, Ks., or the Editorial office at 214 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, Illinois. Please send all Correspondence and undeliverable copies to The Sword of the Lord Editorial and Executive office at 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

Money Is Safer in My Home Than Your Sword

By Viola Walden, Secretary to the Editor

What a variety of mail comes to our office daily! Some brings rich blessing to us; some makes us sad. While thousands praise the Sword, many others condemn it. That is to be expected with every kind of person, representing every denomination, reading THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and in thousands of cases the subscription is paid for by friends who wish to bring blessing to the receiver. Modernists, fundamentalists, liberals; Jews, Protestants, Catholics, 38,000 preachers, 1,500 missionaries, people in 81 foreign countries—of many peoples and tribes who read English, delight with weekly visits from THE SWORD. But I would not want to leave the impression that all the mail is "for;" a lot is against what THE SWORD OF THE LORD stands for.

WHAT WE NEED

By Samuel Stevenson

A city full of churches, Great preachers, lettered men, Grand music, choirs, and organs: If these all fail, what then? Good workers, eager, earnest, Who labour hour by hour; But where, oh where, my brother, Is God's Almighty power?

Refinement: education! They want the very best. Their plans and schemes are perfect,

They give themselves no rest; They get the best of talent, They try their uttermost, But what they need, my brother, Is God the Holy Ghost!

We may spend time and money And preach from wisdom's lore, But education only Will keep God's people poor. God wants not worldly wisdom, He seeks no smiles to win; But what is needed, brother, Is that we deal with sin!

It is the Holy Spirit, That quickeneth the soul. God will not take man-worship, Nor bow to man's control. No human innovation, No skill, nor worldly art, Can give a true repentance, Or break the sinner's heart.

We may have human wisdom, Grand singing, great success; There may be fine equipment, But these things do not bless. God wants a pure, clean vessel, Anointed lips and true, A man filled with the Spirit. To speak His message through.

Great God, revive us truly! And keep us every day; That men may all acknowledge, We live just as we pray. The Lord's hand is not shortened; He still delights to bless, If we depart from evil And all our sins confess.

but of course that is to be expected when it hits sin so hard.

But we do get some mail that is delightful reading, such as this letter:

"Money is safer in my home than your SWORD OF THE LORD paper. I had a young man and woman here for dinner Sunday. The woman asked if she could have the SWORD paper. I told her no, as I hadn't read it yet. When they were gone, I asked my wife, 'Where is my SWORD paper?' She said, 'The young lady took it with her.' Well, praise the Lord anyway. When I find the paper in my mail box, I say praise the Lord from the bottom of my heart. And as I start to read, I'm stopped by the tears of joy."

That letter comes from Mr. La-Sure of Beloit, Wisconsin.

We enjoy that kind of mail; Dr. Rice gets real enjoyment as he reads these fine letters.

A fine friend of THE SWORD, Mr. Paul Rambler, Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, says that "reading THE SWORD resulted in my coming out of a modernistic denomination." He is now pastoring a Conservative Baptist Church near his home.

Mrs. Denzel H. McClung says, "I really enjoy the rich food I receive from THE SWORD. It doesn't bother my ulcers a bit!" She lives in Kremmling, Colorado.

The mail has been unusually heavy recently, for which we praise Him. Another letter dated January 2, this year, we give here to show what THE SWORD meant in this man's life:

January 2, 1956

Dear Bro. Rice,
I received my copy of the SWORD a little late to send you a birthday card for your 60th birthday, so I thought I'd write and tell you just what your ministry has meant to me.

We have met, in fact, not too long after my conversion to Christ. It was in Monroe, Louisiana during 1953 that we "shook" and you also met my wife. So, we aren't exactly strangers on this earth. I told you in part then what I would like to tell you in full now, that I was led to the feet of Jesus by the written Word as it appeared in the SWORD. The Holy Spirit guided me to the very words I wanted to hear, "All things are possible with Jesus."

What a contrast! Before I accepted the Lord as my Saviour, I used to detest receiving the SWORD. While in Korea those many months, I received the SWORD regularly and often times no other mail. THE SWORD came regularly and just as regularly I threw it in the ash can. I was living a life of filth and drunkenness so I wanted nothing to do with the Word. I came the hard way, Bro. Rice; in fact, I had little more than possession of mind. I had lost all my will to face life, my morals had reached an all-time low and I had no character left to destroy. Those

MOVING SOON?

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At least five weeks before change takes effect let us know:

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3. New Address

If you clip the old mailing label from your SWORD and send it in with your change of address, that will help.

Write to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, 214 W. Wesley St., Wheaton, Illinois.

It's possible to have your mailing address corrected by filing your new address with the Post Office, which in turn will notify us. But if a copy of the magazine is sent before that notice reaches us, it means expense for you in forwarding postage.

Sanctified Troublemaking

By Dr. Robert Shuler

Jesus said: "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword" (Matt. 10:34).

The prophets were troublemakers. Moses made trouble in Egypt. David made trouble for Saul. Nathan made trouble for David when he said, "Thou art the man." Christ Himself was accused of making trouble.

The Church of today must be a troublemaker when it comes to the liquor business, to gambling, to impurity in social life, and to the almost numberless evils of our day.

The Church that is approved of God must be a troublemaker when it comes to worldliness and conformity to the cheapening and often morally depleting trends of our times.

The Church should make serious trouble for television, because of its immoral advertising. The Church of God should make trouble for social drinking and the injurious use of tobacco. The Church has a tremendous task of troublemaking in these days of abounding wickedness.

WAR ON WICKEDNESS

If some doubting reader should ask me where to begin our troublemaking as disciples of Jesus, I would answer that we should follow the example He set. We should make trouble for the scribes and Pharisees and hypocrites. We should make trouble for the blind guides and the wolves in sheep's clothing.

Indeed, the Church need not go outside itself to discover enough work to keep it busy throughout the present generation in sanctified troublemaking. There is enough atheism and infidelity and skepticism in our schoolrooms and even in our pulpits to keep any man of God occupied for a lifetime.

Luther made trouble for a corrupt, formal, apostate church. Wesley followed by making trouble for a church that had fallen prey to the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Evangelists like Moody, Sam Jones, Billy Sunday, and the young evangelists of our day made trouble and are making trouble for a Church that has lost its passion for souls and is content to serve tables and increase in goods!

were the darkest minutes of my life just before I decided to go to the only One that could possibly help me. I was embarrassed to kneel and awkward at praying but He was kind, and through your directions I made known my request for help, then an awakening, so I requested that God save me, then more awakening, so I confessed my sins. Wonder of wonders, He didn't turn His back on me. What a beautiful experience followed. I was so deeply depressed, so deep in sin, so despondent, that when He lifted my burden I floated in ecstasy for many hours and rejoiced in His nearness for months. It was almost too much to bear.

Needless to say, the drinking stopped, so did the pursuit of a sinful life and there have been many victories. There is still a job of rebuilding but the Lord is accomplishing it in His own way.

The other day while meditating on the Word, my mind wandered back to that day in Korea. I was suddenly frightened as I realized that if you had not picked up your cross, if you had not followed Jesus, I would have more than likely spent eternity in Hell. No one had ever told me of the plan of salvation, so I thank God for you Bro. Rice and I pray for you always.

I eagerly look forward to receipt of the SWORD. I have been blessed so many times by articles contained therein.

Enclosed is ten (\$10.00) dollars for the Minister and Missionary Fund.

Sincerely,
Signed G— S. M—

Thank all of you who are doing so much to further the work

Youth's Corner

The Editor Answers Young People's Questions

I am called of God to be an evangelist. Please recommend books for study.

You might as well know ahead of time that it costs more to be an evangelist than it does to be a pastor. It costs plenty to serve God anywhere, if you really mean business, and God wants the very best you have. You will need the best education. Some people have made very useful preachers without college training, but it is harder and slower getting started that way. The very best training is not too good for a preacher. Why shouldn't a preacher be willing to study as hard and learn as much as a doctor or lawyer?

Now as to books, I suggest some that I think will be especially good for you and for everybody who wants to be a preacher and an evangelist. I am sorry that some of my favorites are now out of print.

The books by R. A. Torrey. They will include: *What the Bible Teaches*; *How to Work for Christ*; *How to Pray*; *How to Promote a Successful Revival*; *The Holy Spirit—Who He Is and What He Does*; *How to Obtain Fullness of Power*, and *Why God Used D. L. Moody*.

The little book, *How to Pray*, by Dr. Torrey, has had a tremendous influence on my ministry.

You should have a list of great biographies, including: *The Autobiography of Charles G. Finney*, *George Muller of Bristol*, *Gosforth of China*, *C. T. Studd*, *The Life of D. L. Moody* by his son, and *The Life of Charles M. Alexander* by Mrs. Alexander, later Mrs. Dixon. You should have *The Life of David Brainerd* taken from his diary, written by Dr. Oswald J. Smith.

You should read several books of sermons, including: J. Wilbur Chapman's *Revival Sermons*; *Revival Sermons* by W. B. Riley; *As Jesus Passed by and Other Sermons* by Gypsy Smith; *We Would See Jesus* and *A Quest for Souls*, by Dr. George W. Truett, along with sermons by D. L. Moody, R. A. Torrey, Charles Spurgeon in the Moody Colportage series put out by Moody Press. I believe all my own books would be good for you, particularly my books of revival sermons and *The Soul Winner's Fire*, but all of them have God's blessings upon them for evangelism.

I think you should not load yourself down with too many commentaries. Dr. W. B. Riley's set, *The Bible of the Expositor and the Evangelist*, is good, if you can get them. Then for devotional help, *Matthew Henry's Commentary* cannot be beat. For help on doctrine, Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary is best. On the second coming, the little book by W. E. B., *Jesus Is Coming*, is the best, along with my book on *The Coming Kingdom of Christ*.

But I especially urge you to read R. A. Torrey's *Revival Sermons*, *The Autobiography of Charles G. Finney*, *George Muller of Bristol*, and *The Life of D. L. Moody*, by his son.

I am glad you wrote me. I hope these recommendations will be helpful. Let me know how things go with you.

*Books now out of print. Try any one of these second hand book stores: Kregel's Book Store, 525 Easter Ave., S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan; Baker Book Store, 1019 Wealthy St., S. E., Grand Rapids, Mich.; Schultz's Book Store, 80 4th Ave., New York, New York; Blessings Book Store, 81 West Van Buren, Chicago, Illinois.

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We trust that these letters will help to fire you up anew!

Defends Oxnam and Ferre

Washington State Man Thinks Editor Has "UnChristian Attitude and Spirit," Says Ferre Is a "Scholar and a Saint"

By the Editor

It does not surprise the well-taught Bible Christian to find that there are false prophets in the churches, deceiving the people. Every student of the Bible knows that there are many, many warnings of the false prophets who will arise.

The Apostle Peter, by divine inspiration, said:

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not."—II Pet. 2:1-3.

These false prophets "bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them..." the Bible says. So we should expect some preachers, at least some of those pretending to be ministers of God, who actually deny the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, His blood atonement. So it happens.

Why do they do it? The Scripture above tells us that "through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you." In order to keep their jobs, their positions, their income, their prestige, they claim to be preachers, they take the name of Christian. Covetousness is their motive, and deceit is their method. "With feigned words" they "make merchandise" of God's people!

The Apostle Paul, by divine inspiration, foretold that people would come along preaching a false gospel, that of denying salvation by the blood of Christ and denying the historic Christian faith. And then Paul said, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:8, 9).

Paul, inspired of God, said that we should let such men be damned, count them accursed of God, as they are. But instead, denominations put them in places of leadership because they are called "scholars," and because they fit in with worldly and ungodly men and please infidel scholars.

Of such people who deny the essentials of the Christian faith, Paul writes, by God's inspiration in II Corinthians 11:13-15 as follows:

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light when he appears to men. He does not appear with horns and hoofs and does not name himself as the enemy of our souls. So, it is not surprising that Satan's ministers "be transformed as the ministers of righteousness." It is the most natural thing in the world that people who serve Satan should appear to be ministers and claim to be ministers of the Gospel. So, we are solemnly warned, repeatedly, in the Bible.

In THE SWORD OF THE LORD we frequently mention some of these men and quote their own exact words in which they deny the truth of the Bible, deny the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, deny the atoning sacrifice of His death on the cross. We call such people infidels because that is exactly what they are.

Before me is Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary and it says, "infidel . . . n. An unbeliever; a disbeliever;" and it says that the following words are synonyms, "infidel, free thinker, skeptic, ag- words do not mean exactly the

same, but have similar meanings. And then this dictionary continues, "infidel in modern popular usage is a term of reproach for one who avowedly denies the tenets of Christianity and the truth of the Scriptures."

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam; Dr. Nels F. S. Ferre, of Vanderbilt University, and who has been speaking for Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, Meredith Baptist College in North Carolina, and who was denied the right to speak at Lake Junaluska, the Methodist camp meeting last year because of his modernism; Dr. George Buttrick, editor of that outrageous commentary which denies every fundamental of the Christian faith—*The Interpreter's Bible*, as published by Abingdon-Cokesbury; Dr. Emil Brunner, Barthian theologian, upheld in Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian seminaries, and honored speaker—all these are really infidels by dictionary definition. They "avowedly deny the tenets of Christianity," that is of historic Christianity, Bible Christianity. And they deny "the truth of the Scriptures." So, it is only honorable and honest use of English language to name them infidels, as they are.

These men teach exactly what Bob Ingersoll and Tom Paine and Voltaire taught about Christ and what Unitarians everywhere teach about Christ—that He was a good man, that the Spirit of God was perhaps upon Him, but they deny that He was born of a virgin, they deny that He is God in human form, they deny the saving virtue of His atoning blood, they deny that He arose bodily from the grave. They deny His deity, His pre-existence. They deny that He is coming again, visibly and bodily to the earth. So do all infidels deny. So they deny the tenets of the Christian religion and the truth of the Scriptures and they are infidels.

A Reader of THE SWORD Defends Oxnam and Ferre

Here is a letter which may be of interest from a reader of THE SWORD OF THE LORD who dislikes our stand for the historic Christian faith. It comes from Will Richards of Winlock, Washington. He says:

"Sir I am moved to write you in protest against what seems to me an unChristian attitude and spirit toward those with whom you may differ theologically. The most recent instance I have observed is your stigmatizing Bishop Oxnam as 'this infidel Bishop.'"

"This is outrageous.

"Apparently you esteem yourself the Sword of the Lord and rather enjoy thrusting through men who are not orthodox after your particular pattern. You have printed similar calumny against Nels Ferre—a scholar and a saint in one, if there is one anywhere on this earth.

"Both these men are utterly devoted to Christ and His cause in the world; ardent seekers after truth and strenuously striving to bring men to the Christ they know.

"And as you yourself must surely know, Bishop Oxnam has stood intelligently, courageously and uncompromisingly against those self-styled defenders of democracy who themselves are the worst betrayers of democratic procedures.

"I wonder if what you think is the Sword of the Lord is not after all just the sword of John R. Rice and none other; and if your enjoyment of its use is not tainted with malice and not at all Christian?

"I could wish for your birth-day no greater good than a baptism of a spirit of humility and brotherly courtesy and tolerance of those with whom you may

differ. Is it not still in order to disagree without being disagreeable? Make sure that you do not become 'a dirty bully.'

"This is plain speaking, I know, but it is kindly meant. Freedom to think and speak does not include the privilege to traduce a brother because of variance of opinion—or does it?"

"Respectfully and sincerely," (signed) "Will Richards"

The Editor's Answer

December 14, 1955

Mr. Will Richards

Winlock, Washington

Dear Brother Richards:

I call you brother because I trust that you are a born-again Christian. At any rate, I am happy to have your letter and I feel kindly toward you.

Now I think that your attitude toward THE SWORD OF THE LORD and your displeasure with my stand comes from a misapprehension. You see, you say about Ferre and Oxnam, "Both these men are utterly devoted to Christ and His cause in the world." But you and I do not mean the same thing when we say Christ and when we say Christianity. I refer to the historic Christian faith and to the Christ of the Bible. Oxnam does not believe in that Christ and plainly says so. He does not believe that Christ was born of a virgin. He does not believe that Christ died as a substitute for us on the cross and made atonement for our sins. He may be a very nice gentleman and his religion may be very nice, but it is not the Christian religion, in the historic Christian sense.

And you may prefer Nels Ferre's religion to the Christian religion, but it is certainly not the Christian religion if one means what the Christian religion means in the Bible, and what it means by actual dictionary definition.

You are offended when I call Bishop Oxnam an infidel. But I assure you that is not an epithet. It is a dictionary definition which I, as a college English teacher and now for many years as an editor and author, use intelligently and accurately. If you will simply go to your dictionary and find that an infidel is one who denies the essentials of the Christian faith and the truth of the Bible, then you will know what I mean. And Christians ought to be accurate in their language.

This wishful thinking, grabbing a term out of the air and letting it mean whatever you want it to mean, is not intelligent. Educated people ought to do better than

that. And when a man is an infidel, he ought not to deny it, but if he is that honestly, he ought to boast of it instead of claiming to be something else.

I do not pretend that THE SWORD OF THE LORD simply presents my viewpoint. I insist, and every educated man who has studied the proposition knows that it is true, that THE SWORD OF THE LORD stands for the historic Christian position. Suppose we admit that Bishop Oxnam has a right to discard the Christian position, the position of all the historic creeds, the doctrinal position of his own Methodist church, if he wishes to do so. But he ought to be honest about it and he ought not to pretend to be a Christian in the historic Christian sense if he does not hold the Christian position. And if he did not know what the Christian position is, he could read the Apostles' Creed, or the Nicene Creed, or the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church which he vowed, at his ordination, to preach and defend.

Common honesty is surely a requirement of Christianity. And who has a right to claim to be Christian while denying every essential of the Christian faith, denying the very principles that they solemnly vowed, at ordination time, to support and defend?

Now since you write so accusingly, will you allow me to ask you a question? Do you believe the Bible is true as it claims to be? Do you believe that Jesus Christ is God come in the flesh as He explicitly claimed to be? Do you believe that He died on the cross to atone for our sins? And have you personally trusted Him as your own Saviour? You see, if you had that viewpoint, that is, the historic Christian viewpoint which is so well defined that every scholar in the world knows it, I suppose, then you would be able to understand my language. You might not agree with me but you would know that my viewpoint is the Christian viewpoint. You might not like the Christian viewpoint, but if you make a careful investigation, you will see that what I stand for and teach and preach is exactly what Christians have stood for down through all the centuries. I do not deny Bishop Oxnam the right to believe and preach as he chooses. I simply say that he ought not use terminology which he does not mean, and if he does not believe in the oldtime Christian religion, then he ought not to pretend to. And if you want to know whether he believes in the virgin birth of Christ and the inspiration of the Bible, and the

"It Is No Sacrifice"

People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa. Can that be called sacrifice which is simply paid back as a small part of the great debt owing to our God, which we can never repay? Is that a sacrifice which brings its own reward in healthful activity, the consciousness of doing good, peace of mind, and a bright hope of a glorious destiny hereafter.

Away with such a word, such a view, and such a thought! It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege. Anxiety, sickness, suffering or danger now and then with a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities of this life, may make us pause and cause the spirit to waver and sink; but let this only be for a moment. All these are nothing when compared with the glory which shall hereafter be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice. Of this we ought not to talk when we remember the great sacrifice which He made who left His Father's throne on high to give Himself for us.

—David Livingstone.

Dr. Bob Jones Says: "The door to the room of success swings on the hinges of opposition."

need for the new birth, etc., then you can find out if you read his books as I do. I have them here beside me now as I write.

I am glad to have your letter. I hope that a little more study will give you an understanding of the viewpoint of all of us who keep our ordination vows and believe in the historic Christian faith. And I assure you that if I ever turn from this historic Christian faith, I will get out of the ministry and will quit claiming to be a Christian. Isn't that fair?

You see, I have it marked out for me in the Bible what I am to believe and preach if I am a Christian. I try to follow those clear instructions and to please the Lord Jesus Christ, my dear Saviour.

I will be glad to hear from you at any time.

In Jesus' name, yours,
John R. Rice

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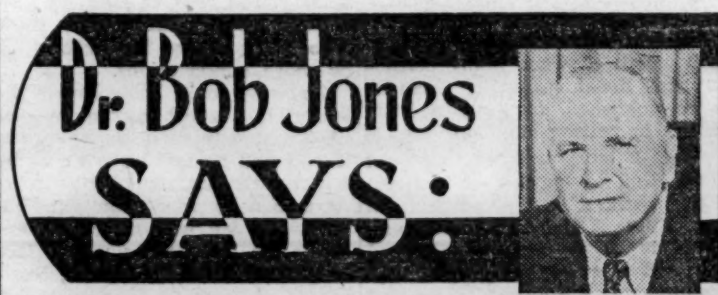
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A few days ago I had a very interesting letter from a Christian physician friend of mine who lives in Alabama. I quote from this letter: "Some years ago a young woman and her mother asked me to referee a debate between them. The daughter very much wanted to go to a state university. The mother wanted her to go to a certain denominational school. I suggested a compromise with the promise on the part of the mother that if at the end of the first semester, the girl still wanted to go to the state university, she would be permitted to go, but in the meantime the girl was to attend Bob Jones University for one semester. At Christmas time the mother and daughter came to see me again. I asked the young lady whether she was going back to Bob Jones University or to the state university, and she said, 'Doctor, I found God at Bob Jones University. There is no place on earth for me to go but there.' This young lady finally graduated from Bob Jones University, and she is living a wonderful Christian life in her community." This shows you how much good a Christian can do. If the girl had gone to the state university—and it was one of the

best state universities—she might have been living a worldly life and might even have gone to hell. If she had gone to a denominational institution, she might have wound up a worldly modernist. A Christian doctor turned her to Bob Jones University, and now she is a cultured, well-educated graduate of Bob Jones University and is a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ. You faithful Christians are in position to help us in lining up the right kind of students who can be trained for Christian leadership. Our problem is not a problem of getting students; it is the problem of getting the right kind of students who can be trained for real Christian leadership. You can also help us by investing some of the Lord's money in the work we are doing. Remember, we have a building program, a missionary program, and a student help program; and all of these different things need your support. All of you Christians can pray for the work of the University; so please pray earnestly and pray daily. Please let us hear from you. Thank you and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER
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Read This Offer

(Continued from page 1)

is almost like trying to whiten the snow or redden the ruby or warm the fire. To say that 'The Memorial Library' is very valuable is a faint way of praising a sky full of stars."

This is the only big set of Spurgeon's complete sermons available. In the 20 volumes are 1,894 different themes and over 300 sermons on texts from Genesis to Revelation. By way of example, there are 51 sermons on Bible characters, 14 sermons on the miracles of Jesus and 7 on His parables, 41 sermons on soul winning, 37 sermons on prayer, 17 sermons on Heaven and 198 sermons on the Lord Jesus Christ. Volume 19 enhances the value of the set by giving complete indexes by theme, by text, and by volume.

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This 20-volume set sells at bookstores everywhere for \$2.95 per volume—or a straight \$59.00 for the entire set. Think of it! It's yours free for sending us only 30 subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD at the regular rate of \$2.50 for each subscription (\$3.00 for Canadian and other foreign countries). Do you see why I am so enthused about this offer? It really does sound almost unbelievable, doesn't it?

When I first suggested to Dr. Rice that we offer this wonderful sermon set to readers for getting subscriptions, I recommended that we give it free with 50 subscriptions. He thought 50 was too many, that it would be too tough a goal for young preachers, students and others with limited contacts, yet who could really profit from the books. Miss Viola Walden, his secretary, got into the discussion by saying that she thought such a set of books for only 30 subscriptions was "just too much of a good thing" since we were always giving so much away anyway. She reminded him very tactfully that doing such was no way to run a successful business.

Who won the argument? I won't admit in writing, but the offer I am announcing says "20 volumes for 30 subscriptions!" What I had intended to be "a good thing" at 20 volumes for 50 subscriptions turned out to be "a super tremendous thing" with the entire "Spurgeon's Sermons . . . Memorial Library" free with only 30 subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, "America's Foremost Evangelistic Weekly."

Frankly, this offer is possible only because we were able to get a special price from the publishers and are buying them immediately in a large quantity. We must have our order for this special purchase in the hands of the publishers no later than the 29th of this month! That means we must have some indication from our readers as to how many sets we should reserve. For this reason it will aid us tremendously if you will fill out the "Subscription Agreement" at the close of this article telling us that you want to work for a set. Mail the agreement to us immediately, preferably by February 24, and we will reserve one complete set for you exclusively.

An offer of this kind would naturally need a time limit and we are giving you until June 30, 1956! This means you will have 3½ months to get only 30 subscriptions. Surely anyone could get that many who really sets out to work at it!

Sword Books Available Also

Just on the possibility that some might not be interested in the "Memorial Library," we decided to make an offer on any of our own books as well: those published or distributed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD Publishers. If you already have the Spurgeon set

or do not care for it because of some other reason, we will give 50 per cent of the value turned in on all subscriptions (30 or more) in books we handle. In other words, if you turned in 30 subscriptions you would be entitled to your choice of \$37.50 worth of books which we publish or distribute. If you turned in \$100 worth of subscriptions, you could have \$50 worth of our books.

Here are some simple rules to keep in mind about this offer:

(1) You may have the complete set of 20 volumes comprising "Spurgeon's Sermons . . . Memorial Library" for only 30 one-year subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD at \$2.50 each (\$3.00 in Canada and foreign countries).

(2) The 3-years-for-\$5 usually offered would apply, but only as one subscription. You must turn in 30 subscriptions at the regular rate to get the set (with 50c per year extra for each foreign subscription submitted).

(3) The offer definitely closes at midnight, June 30, 1956. It does not seem feasible, practical or necessary to continue it longer than that.

(4) Those who want a set reserved for them and will promise to try and get 30 subscriptions should mail the agreement below to us immediately.

(5) Those who prefer to work for books distributed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD Publishers must turn in at least 30 subscriptions at the regular price and then they are entitled to 50 per cent of the total value of their subscriptions in Sword books. Books by other publishers cannot be included in this offer, unless they are listed in our book catalog which we will send free to all who request it.

(6) No part of this special offer is good for less than 30 subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD at \$2.50 each.

I frankly believe that just about everyone will want to get in on this opportunity to get FREE one of the finest sets of sermons ever published. Surely preachers will want to take advantage of it! How easy it should be for them to get 30 subscriptions from among their membership and friends. Seminary students, Bible Institute and College young people struggling to make ends meet and build a small library at the same time will welcome this offer like an oasis on a burning desert. Sunday School teachers, Christian workers, missionaries, youth leaders and common laymen ought to jump at this chance to receive \$59 worth of what many consider the finest group of sermons ever published, for only a little effort in getting subscriptions.

But I have written enough! This kind of bargain should sell itself without any pleading from me. Fill out the form below and rush it to us immediately and we will reserve the complete 20-volume set of Spurgeon's sermons for you; or, if you prefer, we will

"Subscription Agreement"

Dr. John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
214 West Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I know a real bargain when I see one! Put me down at once as one who will agree to send in at least 30 subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD before June 30, 1956, at the rate of \$2.50 per subscription. I am checking below whether I want the "Memorial Library" or the Sword books:

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- ☐ I prefer to receive Sword books for the subscriptions that I turn in. Send me your free book catalog describing the books you publish.

I understand that if this agreement is mailed before midnight, February 24, I will receive a free copy of the booklet, *Healing in Answer to Prayer*, by Dr. Rice.

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WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

Rev. William C. Beasley, pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Bryan, Tex., writes of a mighty moving of God's Holy Spirit in a five-day meeting led by **EVANGELIST FREDDIE GAGE** of Waco, Texas, and his singer, Jimmy Snellen. During these few days there were 19 who came on profession of faith, 18 who joined the church by letter, 42 family altars established, 130 rededications of life, 80 young people who pled-

ged to abstain from dancing, drinking or using narcotics in any form, and 63 who pledged to give at least one hour a week for definite visitation evangelism. The pastor writes highly of this team and reports excellent after effects from the crusade.

EVANGELIST HYMAN APPELMAN of 7301 Bellevue Ave., Kansas City, Missouri, and singer Earl Davis recently conducted services at the West End Baptist Church of Rock Hill, South Carolina. During the meeting there were 85 additions to the church, 69 of which were by baptism. The pastor, Rev. Thomas Stephens Haggai, reports that there were also 128 rededications of life, although Dr. Appelman gave only an invitation for salvation throughout the meeting.

EVANGELIST EDDIE MIDURA, 2641 South 56th Court, Cicero, Illinois, spent eight days with the Austin Bible Church in Chicago, Illinois. The pastor, Rev. Ward V. Lewis, writes that there were 8 saved and 100 others who made various decisions for soul winning, quitting some sin, or personal rededication.

EVANGELIST HOMER BRITTON of 500 Portview Ave., Chattanooga, Tennessee, was recently with the El Vista Baptist Church of Peoria, Illinois, for two weeks. During that time there were 18 people forward, most of whom will be coming into the church membership by baptism, experience or by letter.

The Eastwood Baptist Church of Bay Minette, Florida, recently had two weeks of revival services with **EVANGELIST HUGH PYLE** of 1721 S. Gordon St. S. W., Atlanta, Georgia, speaking the first week and **DR. PETER RUCKMAN** of Bay Minette speaking the second week. During that time there were 26 professions of faith, 6 rededications, 14 requesting baptism, and 26 uniting with the church by letter. This is a new church just organized last July.

EVANGELIST A. G. DORN-FELD is a Lutheran evangelist of the Missouri synod and is being

greatly blessed in soul winning. In 1945 he and two other Lutheran ministers came to the Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning at Winona Lake, Indiana, got a burden for evangelism and learned how to have an evangelistic service, how to plan for, and promote and preach in revivals. He has grown in grace greatly, is sound in the great doctrines of the Bible, and is open for some services wherever God may lead. We love and trust Brother Dornfeld and rejoice in his ministry. Those who feel led to inquire about his ministry may write him at 5796 Westminster Place, Apt. A, St. Louis 12, Missouri.

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News Notes

New Jersey Teen-Agers Hold Bible Marathon

Teen-age members of the Reformed church at Wyckoff, N.J., conducted a Bible-reading marathon that lasted three days—73 hours, 14 minutes to be exact.

The youths, all high school students from 13 to 18 years old, began reading at Genesis 1:1 at 11 o'clock Christmas night. They got to Revelation 22:21 shortly after midnight, December 28. Thirty boys and 30 girls participated in the reading. They went to the pulpit one at a time, each reading for 15 to 30 minutes. Girls took the day shift, boys the night periods.

The pastor, Rev. Wilbur L. DeRevere, said the reading program was not a stunt. He said it was undertaken by the Youth Fellowship Club "with sincerity and reverence" in the hope of "impressing on the community the value of the Bible in every-day living."

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., chief United States delegate to the United Nations, has proposed that all meetings of the UN General Assembly be opened with audible

(Continued on page 6)

greatly blessed in soul winning. In 1945 he and two other Lutheran ministers came to the Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning at Winona Lake, Indiana, got a burden for evangelism and learned how to have an evangelistic service, how to plan for, and promote and preach in revivals. He has grown in grace greatly, is sound in the great doctrines of the Bible, and is open for some services wherever God may lead. We love and trust Brother Dornfeld and rejoice in his ministry. Those who feel led to inquire about his ministry may write him at 5796 Westminster Place, Apt. A, St. Louis 12, Missouri.

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Bob Shuler Met These On the Trail

Robert Sawyers Sheffey

No explanation for him, except the grace and power of God.

In a little country churchyard in southwestern Virginia is a tombstone which bears this simple and yet meaningful inscription: "The poor were sorry when he died."

Robert Sawyers Sheffey lies buried in that churchyard and that tombstone pays tribute to one of the most unique "revival preachers" of Methodism of three quarters of a century ago.

"Uncle Bob" Sheffey was a character. He hugged sugarmaple trees, and declared that God knew His business when He grew a tree that produced maple syrup. He shouted among the "bee-gums" of the mountains, and praised God for honey. He never got stung!

Bob Sheffey prayed in more mountain homes in his day than any other Methodist preacher of his section of the country, yet he never served a charge and was never appointed by a bishop. He was God's free messenger, roaming the earth for Jesus' sake. It was said that more city pulpites were converted under his ministry than under the preaching of any other man who ever came the way of those hills, yet he never preached in a city church.

His brother was a famous Virginia judge. The judge sent his young brother, Bob, to Emory and Henry College, a Methodist school. However, after one term, he wrote the judge that he was afraid he would get so smart that he would go to the Devil so he stopped. He had a son who became one of the wealthy merchants of the state. This son continually sent his father clothes and other serviceable articles. "Uncle Bob" gave them away as fast as they arrived. He said that God used "Eddie" to get things to him that the poor needed.

The simple, yet telling faith of Bob Sheffey was proverbial among the mountain people. He was considered a "miracle man." Still-houses were destroyed in answer to his prayers. Strange things happened to evil men who attempted to disturb "Uncle Bob" while he was conducting his revivals. He would often stop in the midst of a sermon when a disturbance was going on outside the mountain meeting house and ask God to "take charge" of those fellows out there and "tend to them."

There are old-timers living in Grayson, Carroll, Bland, Giles, Wythe, and Smith counties who will tell you the most amazing things that happened in answer to the prayers of this unique preacher. They were there.

When I was a small boy—I am now seventy-five—about the time that Bob Sheffey was closing his eventful ministry, he spent the night in our humble mountain home. At family devotions he prayed for every member of the family by name. He would arise and walk to each child as he prayed and lay his hand on the child's head. I shall never forget the touch of that hand.

My mother had a brass lamp with a round wick which for several weeks had refused to burn. Those were the days before matches had reached our part of the country. If the fire went out on the hearth, we simply carried fire from a neighbor's. That night the fire burned brightly and my mother was using up her paper "lamp lighters" trying to light the obstreperous lamp.

"Uncle Bob" noted her predicament and inquired as to the trouble. Mother informed him that she used the lamp to light the children to their sleeping places up in the attic and that it refused to burn in spite of all she could do. I recall that he picked the lamp up, looked at it, carried it out on a little porch in front of the cabin, and knelt down beside it. Everything was very quiet. After a while he got up from his knees, brought the lamp back into the house and said to my mother, "Sister Elvira, it will burn!" It burned.

No theological course or the reading of books or the attending of lectures ever did for my life and ministry what that circumstance did.

When quite old, "Uncle Bob," who several years before had lost a devoted wife, became interested in a widow in Wythe County and seriously contemplated marriage. However, he confided to friends that he took it to the Lord in prayer and that the Lord said, "Go slow, Bobbie!" He did not marry the widow.

His funeral procession, as it wound through the hills to the little country church, was said to have been the longest that hill country had ever seen.

Bob Sheffey was different. God alone seemed to understand him. He was eloquent, fervent, burning with zeal, persuasive, yet at times terrific, dynamic, and often came to such a sublime climax that people rose and stood as he preached. Yet his strength was in exhortation. He exhorted men constantly to flee the wrath to come and to be saved from their sins.

When Bob Sheffey died his wealthy son was by his bed. The old man aroused, and, with great enthusiasm, said to his son: "Eddie, you just couldn't count the angels I see right now. And there's your mother right among them. I can't stay here any longer. You come on."

Those were the days when the Methodist church was back in the hills, thank God, down among the people, God's common people. We hadn't begun to specialize on Gothic sanctuaries and candle-lighted worship services. Mimeographed prayers hadn't been introduced. We were preaching to the lost and shouting with the redeemed.

And no man of my childhood ever did both better than Robert Sawyers Sheffey of the blue Virginia mountains.

(Get this book, BOB SHULER MET THESE ON THE TRAIL, 42 fascinating character sketches, 185 pages, hard binding, \$2.25. Other books by Shuler: WHAT NEW DOCTRINE IS THIS? (\$2) and SOME DOGS I HAVE KNOWN (\$2). At your local Christian bookstore or add 5% (minimum 15c) for postage and handling and order direct from Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)

Anyone who has serious notions about the admission of Red China to the United Nations or the recognition of Red China by the United States, should examine closely the photographs in recent newspapers of the faces of Dr. and Mrs. Homer V. Bradshaw, American medical missionaries in China for nearly 20 years and prisoners of the Communists for nearly five, as they crossed the Hong Kong border to freedom earlier this week.

The face of Mrs. Bradshaw is the face of living death.

Why was she so marked? What was her crime? What did she do to deserve five years' imprisonment by Red China?

Her "crime" was that she was

a medical missionary. She tried to bring healing and comfort to thousands of Chinese, regardless of political belief.

Her only "crime" was that she was a white person, a citizen of the United States.

For all of this, and for no other cause, she was imprisoned until today, suffering from acute malnutrition and mental breakdown, she is walking death.

She was no spy, she was no saboteur, she was only a white medical missionary, citizen of the United States.

This is the country which some would accept into the fellowship

of civilized and peaceful nations. Red China is unworthy of any consideration for membership in the United Nations or for recognition by good governments until she stops not only warring against nations, but warring against helpless civilians whose only crime is Christian charity and a desire to help their fellow man.

Before anyone urges recognition or admission of the barbarous Red China state, let them look into the face of Mrs. Bradshaw as she crossed the bridge to Hong Kong, after five years' captivity by the Reds.

—Editorial Dec. 22, in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Book Reviews

BOOK REVIEWS IN THIS COLUMN WILL USUALLY BE BY JUDGES OF THE SWORD BOOK CLUB AND WILL BE SIGNED.

WHEN IRON GATES YIELD by Geoffrey T. Bull, Moody Press, Chicago, Illinois. 254 pages, \$3.

For adventuresome souls, the Lord of the harvest makes life to be an adventure. In the case of Geoffrey Bull the adventure of faith and obedience led to China in turmoil after the second war, to Tibet, that mysterious "roof" of the world, in the dangerous and trying days when the Communist armies made their invasion; and then followed the long imprisonment behind the bamboo curtain of Red China, with the diabolical pressures and the infamous brain washing. To read this stirring and graphic story is to understand vividly the conflict between darkness and light, between the forces of the evil one and those of the Saviour, which can very well become the setting for the last tremendous opposition by Antichrist. It is a story taken from the pages of life, and excellently written.

DR. V. RAYMOND EDMAN

TWICE BORN—AND THEN? by Andrew Gih, Marshall, Morgan and Scott, Ltd., London. 192 pages, \$2.

Here we have a very remarkable book. It is written largely in the first person by a native of Shanghai, China, son of a Confucianist scholar, and founder of the 'Evangelize China' Fellowship. It is really an autobiography in two parts: I. The Story, II. The Message. Part I stresses the story of the authors conversion, call, dedication, and evangelistic activities, personal and group. Part II centers upon the absolute dependence on the Holy Spirit for all who would win men to Christ. This is a volume for all Christians, written by a young man in clear, easily understood language, and challenging all who have accepted Christ to make their acceptance real.

DR. JOHN L. HILL

DOCTOR OF TANGANYIKA by Paul White, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 243 pages, \$3.

This is the missionary story of Paul White, just 'fresh out' of medical school at the ripe old age of 25 and facing a clientele of approximately one million African natives! Supervising not one but seven widely separated native hospitals, young White faced a task that might well have fazed a man of twice his years and thrice his experience. And yet with genuine Christian fortitude, a wonderful and rare sense of humor, plus God-given ability, the work prospered under his leadership. Delivering approximately 800 colored babies a year, performing more operations in a month than the average doctor in a lifetime, fixing flat tires in the middle of the bush country, improvising gasoline tins for laboratory equipment—all these are in a day's work.

Chaos created by witch doctors proved one of the most severe problems the young Australian doctor had to face. Blinded eyes and crippled limbs caused by the crude technique bred of supersti-

ALCOHOL QUIZ

Q—Why does alcohol increase thirst rather than quench it?

A—Because of dehydrating action when alcohol touches the mucous membrane of the throat.

Q—What is the reason for the headache experienced by drinkers the morning after?

A—The brain being largely water absorbs much alcohol causing it to be pinched in the skull.

Q—In what order does alcohol affect the brain?

A—It affects the higher centers of judgments, self-control, reason, memory and sensation. Breathing and circulation are the last to be overcome.

Q—Does the body develop a tolerance for alcohol?

A—No, a 0.3 concentration in the blood causes staggering in both the novice and the habitual drinker.

Q—How soon after drinking does alcohol affect behavior?

A—As soon as the alcohol reaches the brain—from 15 to 20 minutes.

Q—How long does the effect last?

A—As long as any alcohol remains in the blood stream.

Q—Does alcohol pep one up and make him the life of the party?

A—Many people think so, but their talk is less controlled, and it is often silly and vulgar.

Q—Is the term "tight" an appropriate one for a drinking person?

A—No, he is loose both in talk and behavior.

Q—What does scientific testing show concerning speed and accuracy?

A—They are lowered in both physical and mental skills.

Q—Why have coaches said repeatedly that athletes must not tangle with alcohol?

A—Because it impairs self-control and slows reaction time.

Q—What is reaction time?

A—The time between receiving a message and the response to it.

Q—How much may alcohol in the blood stream slow down reaction time?

A—Even a small amount of alcohol in the blood stream slows down reaction time.

tion made many life-long cripples that all the skill of the young medical missionary could not overcome. The oft-quoted slogan, "Only milk until the teeth come," was repeated again and again everywhere to combat the heathen practice of stuffing gruel down newborn babies instead of milk.

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EVANGELIST BILL RICE

A—From one-fifth to four-fifths seconds.

Q—What is the fundamental cause of alcoholism?

A—The drinking of beverages containing alcohol—due mostly to social pressure and a lack of being informed as to what it is and what it does.

Q—What can one always do when pressure is brought upon him to drink alcoholic beverages?

A—Simply say, "No, thank you. I don't drink."

—The Outlook

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"Behold the Man"

(Continued from page 1)

Christ is the Son of God, but to conceive that this God came in the flesh and took on Himself the form of a servant, even the form of a man—that is difficult. Christ declared Himself to be the Son of God, but He spent no time arguing about it. The proof was too obvious. When Satan asked Him to show His supernatural power in the temptation, He refused. He refused to work miracles before Herod. He deliberately hid His power from the scoffing Pharisees. Repeatedly after marvelous miracles of healing, He instructed the one healed not to make it known (Luke 8:56; Matt. 8:4; Matt. 9:30). It is not true that the miracles of Jesus were simply to prove that He was the Son of God. It is a remarkable thing that Jesus put the emphasis continually on the fact that He was a MAN! Though He could have called Himself "the almighty, eternal God" or "the Son of God," yet He regularly called Himself instead "THE SON OF MAN"! That title, "The Son of Man" is recorded eighty-two times in the Gospels as falling from His own lips. He loved to be known as "The Son of Man."

Christians, we will never know the love and mercy of God toward sinners until we understand that Christ became flesh and dwelt among us as a man.

When Pilate said, "Behold the man!" he was right. As a man, as a human being, He was born, He lived, He toiled, He was tempted, He ministered, He taught, He was betrayed, and He was tried and crucified. As a man He was buried and arose and ascended! Behold the man!

I ask you to feast with me on the riches of God's Word concerning the humanity of Jesus, His incarnation in human flesh, His humility in taking the form of a servant, His glorious fitness to be our Saviour since He, too, was a man.

He Was Promised Aforetime as a Man

The first recorded promise of a coming Saviour was given just outside the gate of the Garden of Eden. The ruin of the human race had been accomplished by Satan. In the first man, Adam, all had died. God killed beasts, clothed the shamed sinners in

coats of skin, the first shedding of blood, the first type of mercy and atonement. Then God promised that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head and that the serpent should bruise His heel (Gen. 3:15). The coming Saviour must be "the seed of the woman." The longed-for Saviour, coming to redeem man, would be (oh, blessed thought!) a man and so would understand men. On man's side, such a Saviour would be fit to trust. On God's side, such a Saviour would be fit to substitute to bear the sins of men. Thus from the time that Eve, the first woman, went through the pangs of motherhood for the first time and said, "I have gotten A MAN from the Lord," thousands, perhaps millions of women, each dreamed and hoped that the coming MAN who would crush Satan's head and redeem men should be born of her womb and partake of her flesh and bones.

'Abraham saw my day and was glad,' Jesus said. To Abraham and his seed were the promises given and that holy Seed who should with Abraham inherit the land of Canaan forever, must be a man who would come from the loins of Abraham, descended through Isaac. The Christ must be of Abraham's humanity.

The coming MAN was promised to David as his seed. In II Samuel 7:10-16, in Psalm 89 and elsewhere, the Lord promised David that in the future his throne at Jerusalem would be established forever to his seed. The coming King must be of the seed of David, that is, literally a descendant of his and therefore a man. Besides, the throne mentioned was a human literal throne and requires a literal human person to sit upon it.

God revealed to Isaiah that a virgin should conceive and bring forth a Son, Immanuel, or God with us (Isa. 7:14). Again He said, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6). It was Isaiah who knew that "a MAN shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest: as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land" (Isa. 32:2). It was Isaiah, too, to whom was revealed the coming Saviour as "a MAN of sorrows, and acquainted with grief."

Even to Mary, the Angel Gabriel said, "Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son and shalt call his name Jesus" and then that this Son, this man, should be "the son of God."

The Birth of Christ, a Human Birth

It is not strange that Jesus was born of a virgin. The Son of God could not have been born any other way. It is strange and unnatural to suppose the Son of God could be born any other way. I say, the virgin birth causes me no trouble. But I am lost in awe and wonder at the thought that He should be born at all! It is not amazing that Christ would be born as the Son of God must be born, with no human father, but it is the most amazing thing that human ear ever heard that one who is the Son of God would consent to be born at all of a human mother, that He should love men enough or have any purpose great enough that the Son of God should give up His glory as God and become a man! The Saviour came into the world through the same portals as every human being who ever walked this earth, save only Adam and Eve who were made fresh from the hand of God. The Creator of the heavens and earth was formed and borne in the body of a woman. He nursed at a woman's breast and smiled into a mother's face and learned from a mother's tongue and was dandled on a mother's knee and led by a mother's hand. The birth of Christ not only glorified motherhood and babyhood, it is an omen of hope for all mankind. The Son of God has

become a man and has done it for love of men, to make a perfect pattern, to atone for men, to suffer for men, to die for men, to mediate between God and man!

Not much is said of the babyhood and youth of Jesus in the Bible but evidently that much is given to emphasize His perfect humanity. Babyhood is not the mark of a God but the mark of a man! A God could not be helpless as a baby without becoming man. A God could not be ignorant as a baby is without becoming man. I could not understand how God could grow "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man," as the Scripture says that He did (Luke 2:52), until it dawned upon me that Christ had left His glory, and in some sense left the characteristics of deity in Heaven. He emptied Himself of His wisdom and chose to be ignorant as a baby so that He, like all other men, could grow in wisdom. Here I take off my shoes and tread softly with a holy reverence, conscious of my own ignorance and inability to discuss such a theme and yet I know that Christ some way left even the favor of God in Heaven. When Christ was born of a virgin He laid aside those things that would give Him unfair advantage over other men and entered the race of life. Christ won, without sin, where no one else ever did and grew in favor with God. He said, "I do always those things that please him" (John 8:29). The Father said at His baptism, "I am well pleased," and in Hebrews 2:10 we are told that the captain of our salvation is made perfect (or complete) through suffering.

So Jesus, when He came into this world, was so much a man and left behind so many of His qualities as God that He needed to grow in wisdom, in stature, and in favor with God and man. We are to believe that He could not talk until He learned to talk. He could not walk until He learned to walk, doubtless with many failures like other babies. I believe He could not read until He learned to read and that He did not know the Scriptures until He learned them, as we must do. Catholics have some traditions about miracles worked by the child Jesus, but there is not a hint of anything of the kind in the Word of God. We know that Jesus grew, that He was subject to His mother and foster-father, that He was as human as any other child ever born. He did not sin, and He showed an aptitude for spiritual things that we poor sinful beings do not have. But His sinless virtue and His anxiety to be about His Father's business were not simply divine characteristics that He brought into this world. Rather they were His own deliberate choice as a human being—a perfect and sinless human being, the only one that ever existed after the Garden of Eden, but yet a human being.

Christ Lived as a Man

The incarnation of Christ was essential as He went to take man's place. A God is never tired. A God never despairs. The Scripture says that God cannot be tempted to do evil (Jas. 1:13). So if God is ever to take the place of a weary, despairing and tempted human being, then this God must become a man. Our Lord Jesus, the Man, worked in the carpenter shop, for He was called "the carpenter" (Mark 6:3). There is much to indicate that He was the principal support of His mother. Joseph is never spoken of after Christ was twelve years old and we suppose that he died before the further record resumes.

The parables of Jesus prove that He knew the labor of the shepherd and the farmer. His hand fitted the hammer and the saw and I doubt not there were callouses there. The Lord Jesus could never have said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest... for I am meek and lowly in heart" unless He had first become a man and knew the laborer's burdens and sorrows.

The Saviour could never be poor until He became a man. God, the Creator of all things, is not poor and could not be poor except as He entered into human flesh and gave up His glory, power and riches. A poverty-stricken

mortal could never feel that God knew the depth of his woe unless God should consent to become poor. We are told about Jesus: "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (II Cor. 8:9).

The humanity of Jesus makes Him approachable. When God spoke in thunderous voice from smoking Sinai, the people were awed and frightened as they ought to have been. They begged Moses that God should never speak to them again but rather that he, a man, should get the message from God and bring it to them (Exod. 20:18, 19).

The hungry-hearted, distraught Moses pleaded with God that he might see His glory, but could not. God put him in a cleft of the rock and passed by that he might see His back parts. Multitudes of others have hungered for just what Moses needed, for some way to see God. How Moses must have delighted when he met Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration, and, seeing Him, saw the glory and beauty of the Father! We are told that "no man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (John 1:18). Again we are told: "For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God IN THE FACE OF JESUS CHRIST" (II Cor. 4:6). The only way that the infinite God could shine in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God was in the adorable human face of our Lord Jesus Christ! Behold THE MAN, the Man who reveals God!

Man could not look on the august and terrible face of the living God and live (Exod. 33:20).

But when Jesus came in human form, multiplied thousands thronged Him to hear every word that fell from His lips. Beggars accosted Him, lepers asked for and got cleansing. The woman who was a sinner was not afraid to weep over the human feet of the human Jesus, and then to wipe those feet with the hairs of her head. John the beloved even laid his head on the human breast of our Saviour and heard His heartbeat. The traitor, Judas, was not afraid to kiss His cheek. They took the scarred, abused, human body of our Saviour from the cross and loving hands wrapped that cold but adorable flesh in spices "as the manner of the Jews is to bury." Whatever their reverence, their love and tears, they were not afraid to handle that beloved body. It was a human body and in some sense it was their own.

Even after His resurrection, Mary held Him by His feet, and doubting Thomas was free to feel the nailprints in His hands and thrust his hand into the wounded side. Christ had to be human to be approachable.

All glory to Jesus that He became a man for our sake! Now the poorest and humblest need not be afraid to enter boldly into the presence of Christ! God could give the inspired Scripture that "like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame, he remembereth that we are dust" (Ps. 103:13,14), but man could never understand that Scripture nor quite believe it, until God demonstrated it in the flesh. One demonstration is worth a thousand arguments, we are told. Christ is the human demonstration of God's condescension, His seeking, His unselfish and limitless love and mercy to man.

We are told that it is easier to learn through the "eye-gate" than through the "ear-gate." Geometry is illustrated by drawings; arithmetic is best written down in figures. Geography cannot be learned without maps, and even stories need to be illustrated with pictures. The human face of Jesus Christ is the convincing illustration of God's love. The outstretched human arms of Jesus on the cross are the visible map of God's compassion in the geography of the world, according to John 3:16! No mathematics could ever compute for man the awful price of sin and the conclusive proof that the price is

paid, like the visible torrent of blood that gushed out from the wounded side of the Saviour or the trickle that ran down His face, His hands, and His feet!

O Thou unapproachable, eternal God, I never knew that You loved me until I saw Jesus! I never knew that I could approach Thee until He touched me! I never knew that Thou didst long to forgive me until I heard His human voice cry, "Father, forgive them!" God had to become a man before man could ever feel free to approach God.

The Marvelous Works of Christ Were the Works of Man

I have told you that I know Christ is very God. I would not take one gleam from the glory of His crown, and like Thomas I would fall at His feet and say, "My Lord and my God." Yet I would have you know, if possible, more of the fullness of His humanity. So I tell you first, what to me seems amazing, that the miracles that Jesus worked He worked not with His own pre-existent, glorious power as the Son of God. Rather His mighty works were done as a Spirit-filled man. He who made the world and into whose hand all judgment was given by the Father yet chose to do nothing except by direct instruction from God. In the creation Christ said, "Let there be light: and there was light" and at His word every created thing came into being. Yet on earth this same Christ laid aside that power and as a man He said, "The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works."

So Jesus worked no miracles in His babyhood and boyhood. He could have done so but He chose not to. He lived a perfect, sinless, human life until His baptism when His public ministry began. At His baptism when Jesus prayed, the Holy Spirit came upon Him (Luke 3:21, 22; 4:1). To Him the Spirit was given without measure (John 3:34). From that time forth He was filled with the Spirit and led by the Holy Spirit. The supernatural power that Jesus manifested was the power of the Holy Spirit. He had divested Himself of His power as the Son so that He might take just the power that was available to every other human being, the power of the Holy Ghost!

After the Holy Spirit came upon Him came the first miracle at Cana of Galilee. After the Holy Spirit came upon Him He entered into the synagogue at Nazareth and taught as He had never done before. He read from Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor..." and then said, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears" (Luke 4:14-21). The marvels of His public ministry followed but they were the marvels of a perfect MAN, perfectly filled with the Spirit of God. For this reason Jesus could say to His disciples, "The works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

Other human beings after they are saved could be filled with the Spirit too and win souls with the same power of the Spirit that Jesus used. He came to His disciples after His resurrection and said, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you," and He breathed upon them and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost" (John 20:21, 22). The point is that the ministry of Christ was a human ministry. His miracles were in the power of the Holy Spirit, not in His own power as the Son of God. His preaching was in the power of the Holy Spirit, not in His own creative power. He preached as a servant of God and a prophet of God, a pattern and example to every Christian.

There are those that believe that the miracles of Christ were the proof that He is the Son of God, but not so. If so, then that puts multitudes of others in the same class with Christ and Old Testament prophets. The twelve apostles, the seventy, deacons Stephen and Philip, and others of Bible times worked miracles in the power of the Holy

News Notes

(Continued from page 4)

prayer. He feels that the moment of silence that delegates now observe at the opening of the meetings is not sufficient. "I propose that God should be openly and audibly invoked at the UN in accordance with any one of the religious faiths which are represented here," he said. "I do so in the conviction that we cannot make the UN into a successful instrument of God's peace without God's help—and that with His help we cannot fail. To this end I propose that we ask for that help."

In India, although child marriages have been prohibited since 1929, the latest census figures show that almost 15 per cent of all Indian girls between five and 14 years of age are married, over 133,000 widows or divorcees are girls under the age of 14.

A course is now being offered for new Christians by the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, and those who want to begin systematic Bible study at home. The name of the course is "Studies for New Christians." Those interested may write the Correspondence Schools Bible Institute of Los Angeles, 558 South Hope, Los Angeles 17, California.

Moral Safeguards Demanded for New Reserve Draftees

The National Security Training Commission has demanded careful safeguards over the moral conditions that will surround U. S. Army camps where 18-year-old youths will take the new six-month reserve training program.

The new program, which was opposed by some religious groups

(Continued on page 11)

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Spirit. Christ raised Lazarus from the dead and the widow's son of Nain. But so did Elijah raise the widow's son, and Elisha the son of the Schunammite woman, while Dorcas rose from the dead at the voice of Peter, and Eutychus, when embraced by Paul.

The miracles proved that Christ was what He said He was. But miracles do not themselves prove one is God. Christ worked miracles just as the apostles and prophets did, with the power of the Holy Spirit, and He preached and won souls as any Christian may do, in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is because He humbled Himself, gave up His glory and left His

heavenly garments to become a man, to live as a man, to serve as a man, and to die as a man and for men.

What a comfort it must be to a Christian that He never asks us to do anything except what He has already done, with the same powers that are available for us. The humanity of Jesus is the only way He could be an example to us. If Christ had not loved to call Himself "the Son of man," then He could never have said to us, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men," or "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Nor could His lowliness, His humility, His forgiveness be held up as our example. Paul could never have written: "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."—Phil. 2:5-8.

Since Christ became a man, He becomes our perfect pattern and we are told that "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (I Peter 2:21). Any Christian who wants to serve God must first pause and look upon that thorn-crowned figure denying Himself, who was introduced to the multitudes by Pilate by these words, "Behold the man!"

The Temptation of Jesus Was the Temptation of Man

When Jesus went into the wilderness to be tempted of Satan

He went as a man. He well knew how frail was human strength. If Christ enters into that contest with the enemy of our souls and wins, then the cards must not be stacked in His favor. What comfort would it be to me that Christ was tempted in all points as I am if He carried to the temptation weapons that I cannot carry and had help that I cannot expect? And why would Jesus be fit to die for my sins in such a case? How would I know, how would Satan know, that Jesus would do any better than I do if He were placed in my shoes? No, if the temptation of Jesus is to mean anything to God, to Satan and to men, then He must meet it like a man. For that reason He went forty days without food. Men are sometimes tempted when they are so weak and frail bodily that they have not a fair chance it seems to reject the Evil One. Their strength is so small. So the Lord Jesus resolved to enter into this contest as weak as any man ever entered a contest with Satan.

On this very point Satan tried to trap Christ. Since He was the Son of God, why not eat bread? Why not, with His divine power? This Jesus refused to do. He stood before Satan that day in the same human form as John Rice must meet Satan many a time. If Jesus escapes only as God then how can John Rice escape who is not God? No, Christ entered that contest to be a man and to be tempted like a man. He had the strength of the Holy Spirit as every man can have. He had even the ministry of angels when it was over, for the angels are ministering spirits to all of us who are the heirs of salvation. Jesus had the Word of God and every child of God can have that. Jesus demonstrated in His temptation that every man has enough heavenly resources at hand to defeat Satan if he but humbly and faithfully uses his weapons, which are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.

My heart was inexpressibly blessed last Sunday afternoon in studying this subject when I saw for the first time that Jesus selected a Scripture to use in defeating Satan that He could not have used except as a man. When Satan suggested, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread" (Matt. 4:3), Jesus answered and said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Satan slyly tried to tempt Jesus to face the temptation as the Son of God. Instead Jesus quoted a Scripture from Deuteronomy 8:3 which says, "MAN doth not live by bread only." In effect it seems to me that Jesus said, "Satan, as Son of God, I saw you fall as lightning from Heaven and I know of your ultimate and eternal downfall. But today I face you as a man, a pattern for all the men who will ever meet you and your temptations. Today I come as hungry and tired as any man who will ever be tempted; but I was led here by the Spirit. I am in the will of my Father. I will rely upon the power of the Spirit and upon the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. I answer you then with a Scripture written for all men and apply it to myself, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.'" So might Jesus have spoken to Satan.

Some way I am not as afraid of the Devil now since Jesus whipped him as a man. I can now believe that "there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it," even as He said (I Cor. 10:13). The fact that God can control Satan, can cast him out of Heaven and is certain eventually to put him down forever is sweet to my soul. I am glad it is true, though it does not particularly help me when I come to temptation. But the fact that our Lord Jesus Christ, in human body, met Satan one day in the wilderness and defeated him, yea, and defeated him again and again in life, in death, and in resurrection, with only such weapons as

are available to every child of God, thank God, gives me a strength and a courage I could never otherwise have.

If Jesus the man could say that He needed to live by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God, then so do I. If He was safe when led by the Spirit, even though fasting forty days in the presence of Satan, then so am I! I do often fail when I am tempted but there is a way of escape provided in every case. Christ, the man, took that way of escape and shows it to me.

Christ Died as a Man

There are two awful, tremendous facts made clear by the crucifixion of Christ. One is the stupendous, insatiable sinfulness of man and the other is the infinite, measureless mercy of God. All things are judged by the cross, both man and God. Only a race of men degenerate, sin possessed, with wilful malice toward God and right would shamefully crucify the Son of God. As Jewish leaders and the mob, with Herod and Pontius Pilate all joined in the crucifixion, so the whole race, Jews and Gentiles, are guilty of the death of Christ. Cain, Korah, Judas and the Antichrist are alike proper representatives of the human race. Every unconverted man in the world is lost because He hates Christ, the light, and deliberately chooses the wrong (John 3:19-21). And those of us who are converted first rejected and despised the Lord and were guilty of His death. Nothing proves the depravity of the human heart like the crucifixion of Christ. Christ is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, that is, continually slain by sinners, and thus the crucifixion is a continual monument and witness against the race of mankind. On the other hand, the cross is the best evidence that even God could give that He loved men. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son."

But had you realized that the crucifixion was impossible without the incarnation? Men may hate God but the world would never know it unless God came in the flesh. Men could not spit in the face of God. They did spit in the face of Jesus Christ, His Son, in the flesh (Matt. 26:67; Matt. 27:30). They could not pluck out the beard of God, but they did the beard of Christ (Isa. 50:6). When they scourged the human body of Jesus, it only showed what the human race would have done to God long ago, but never before had God appeared in human form. Millions have been wicked enough to drive nails into the hand of God or give Him vinegar and gall to drink or thrust Him with a spear and mock Him while He died, but God is a Spirit; God did not have hands and feet; God had no sides out of which could flow blood and water until Jesus came in the flesh like a man. The men did to Christ, the Man with a human body, what they could not do to God.

And the boasts of godless Russia today that they have done away with the rulers on earth and now must eliminate the rulers of Heaven but show that inherently the unconverted human heart would do the same again if God appeared again in human flesh. The crucifixion, revealing the wickedness of men and the love of God, was utterly impossible until Christ became man. Pilate was right when he stood Jesus before the multitudes and said, "Behold the man!" That figure crowned with thorns, covered with a purple robe of mockery, with spit upon His face, with a bleeding back and with a weed in His hand for a sceptre was the figure of a man, and on that fact there hangs the eternal safety of every redeemed soul.

For Christ could not be a substitute for man unless He were a man. The only way the Son of God could be a fit substitute for man was to become a man Himself. He must be a man of like feelings, a man of like temptations, and yet without sin, before He could take a man's place.

When a football game is in progress, the coach may put in a substitute, but the substitute must be just as eligible as the man he replaces. He must be from the

same school, meet the same scholastic requirements, even know the same signals. So the Lord Jesus, before He could become our substitute, had to become a man. My heart runs over with worship, and a glad reverential joy fills my heart as I see that Christ became a man that He might take my place, suffer for my sins, pay my debt, and redeem me to God. There are mysteries here so deep we cannot completely fathom them until we awake in His likeness, but if we dwell on the infinite condescension necessary for God to become a servant, for the Son of God to become a man, for the Creator of all the worlds to become a little lower than the angels, then, surely, the love and gratitude of our hearts will be enlarged toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Resurrection and Ascension of Christ as a Man

God could not die until He became a man and God could not rise from the dead. As only a man can die, so only a man can rise from the dead.

I am so glad that Christ became a man and as a man conquered death, Hell and the grave. When I go out to the cemetery and look into the bold, bare clay of a grave, I cannot somehow comprehend the certainty of a resurrection brought about by a loving God, except as I realize that Christ Himself is risen from the dead. Tear-dimmed eyes need very clear and simple evidence. Torn and bleeding hearts need more than promises; they need a demonstration, and thank God, our Lord Jesus Christ has demonstrated the resurrection!

I have unmistakable evidence and many infallible proofs of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. His poor cold body was buried away but on the third day He arose again. The resurrection was literal and physical. The napkin was folded by itself and other garments lay in their place in Joseph's new tomb. An angel rolled back the stone from the door so that the physical human body of Jesus, glorified but still human as our own bodies will be when glorified, could come forth. That resurrected body, that human body of Jesus, ate before the disciples to show that He was not only spirit but flesh and bones (Luke 24:39). He invited them to touch the scars of the nails and the wound of the spear. With tender hands He cooked fish and bread for them on a fire of coals beside the Sea of Galilee, in the early dawn (John 21:9).

The Saviour ascended to Heaven in that same physical body. He is there now, at the right hand of the Father, with a human body, human hands, a human face, the Man of the Glory, our perfect human High Priest.

He appeared to John on the Island of Patmos, and in Revelation, chapter 1, John tells us about His garments, about His head, His hair, His feet, His hands, and His mouth. He laid His right hand upon John saying, "Fear not" (Rev. 1:17).

When Jesus ascended to Heaven two angels stood by in white apparel and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). So when Jesus comes back it will be still with His blessed, human body with which He went away, the body that ate and drank, the body that the disciples saw and handled with their hands.

Zechariah 13:6 tells how the Jews who will be delivered by Him at His second coming will say to Him, "What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends." In other words, the Saviour will bring back the same hands, with the same scars! And Zechariah 14:4 says: "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east." That is, when Jesus returns to the earth to reign, He will come back to the same Mount of Olives from which He went away, and His same literal, human feet will stand there! Christ in Heaven is

(Continued on page 8)

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"Behold the Man"

(Continued from page 7)

the resurrected Son of Man, and He will return to reign as the Son of Man; that is, the son of Mary, the son of David, and the son of Abraham. And that proves that all of us will see our loved ones gone on before, in resurrected, physical bodies, too.

How sweet this is to me! I will see my mother again, not just some spirit, but my mother with hands and feet. I think she will have again the long black hair that lay on her pillow the day she died. I think I shall see her smile and feel her hand upon my head and kiss her then as I kissed her good-by when she told us she was going and smiled and fell asleep. Do not take from me my human Christ, my Christ with a human body! He met all the foes of man and conquered them. He met all the woes of man and suffered them. He saw all the sins of men, suffered for them and paid for them. He knows all the hearts of frail, sinning humanity and yet He loves men! Behold the Man!

I do not wonder that Paul and Barnabas preached, "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this MAN is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses" (Acts 13:38, 39). Paul wrote to Timothy, "There is one God, and one mediator between God and man, the MAN Christ Jesus."

Christ, the Only Hope for Me

Some sinner may read this who has never had peace with God. The only way is through Jesus Christ, the God-Man. He knows your sorrows. He felt your temptations. He paid for your sins. Today if you will trust Him with all your heart, this Man, Christ Jesus, will become your Saviour, your Lord, your God.

O Man, O Man of Galilee!

Draw near and lay Thy hand on me.

Of all the world I want but Thee,
O Man, O Man of Galilee.*

If today you will take Christ as your Saviour, depend upon Him for forgiveness, make Him Lord of your life, start out today to live for Him—if you will do that, then sign this statement today, announce it to your loved ones and copy and send the statement to me.

Evangelist John R. Rice
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I know that the Lord Jesus Christ, God's own dear Son, became a man that He might die for me and offer me salvation. Today, here and now, I trust Him to forgive my sins, to make peace for me with God and to save my soul. I write this word to let you know.

Signed _____

Address _____

*Mrs. May Roberts, Author

(From the editor's book "... AND GOD REMEMBERED." Sword of the Lord Publishers, 123 pages, \$1.50.)

'All Things Are Ready: Come'

(Continued from page 1)

things are . . . ready." The argument is fetched from the divine preparations, gathered from among the dainty viands of the royal feast. 'My oxen and my fatlings are killed, come to the supper.' The readiness of everything on God's part is the argument why men should come and partake of His grace: and that is the point upon which we will dwell at this time—the readiness of the feast of mercy is the reason why men should come to it at once.

God Never Behindhand

It is God's habit to have all things ready, whether for His guests or His creatures. You never discover Him to be behindhand in anything. When the guests come, there is not a scramble to get the table arranged and the food prepared, but the Lord has great forethought, and every little point of detail is well arranged. "All things are . . . ready."

It was so in creation. He did not create a single blade of grass upon the face of the earth until the soil and the atmosphere had been prepared for it, and until the kindly sun had learned to look down upon the earth. Imagine vegetation without a sun, or without the alternation of day and night. But the air was full of light, the firmament upheld the clouds, and the dry land had appeared from out of the sea, and then all things were ready for herb, and plant, and tree.

Nor did God prepare one single creature that hath life, nor fowl that flieth in the midst of heaven, nor fish that swimmeth the seas, nor beast that moveth on the dry land, until He had prepared its habitat, and made ready its appointed food. There were no cattle before there were meadows for their grazing; no birds till there were trees for their nests, no, nor even a creeping insect till its portion of meat had been provided. No creature had to wait in hungry mood while its food was growing; all things were ready; ready first for vegetation, and then afterwards for animal life.

As for Adam, when God came to make him as His last and noblest work of creation, all things were ready. The garden was laid out upon the banks of flowing streams, and planted with all kinds of trees, the fruits were ripe for his diet, and the flowers in bloom for his delight. He did not come to an unfurnished house, but he entered upon a home which his Father had made pleasant and agreeable for his dwelling. The world was first fitted up, and then the man who was to govern that world was placed in it. "All things are ready," the Lord seems to say, "Spring up, O herb yielding seed"; and then "All things are ready, come forth, ye roes and hinds of the fields"; and then "All things are ready, stand forth, O man, made in mine own image!"

God's Thoughts Go Before Men's Comings

Now the fact that in the great gospel supper all things are ready teaches us that *God's thoughts go before men's comings*. "Come for all things are . . . ready." Not "If you come, all things will be ready," but "they are ready, and therefore come." Grace is first, and man at his best follows its footsteps. Long before we ever thought of God, He thought of us; yea, before we had a being, and ere time itself began, in the bosom of the Eternal there were thoughts of love towards those for whom the table of His mercy is now spread. He had planned and arranged everything in His august mind from of old, He had indeed foreknown and predestinated all the provisions and all the guests of His supper; all things were settled in His eternal covenant and purpose or ever the earth was. Never think, oh sinner, that thou canst outstrip the love of God.

It is at the end of the race before thou art at the beginning. God hath completed before thou hast begun. His thoughts are before ours, and so are His acts, for He doth not say, "All things are planned and arranged," but "All things are . . . ready."

Jesus, the great sacrifice, is slain, the fountain for our cleansing is filled with blood; the Holy Spirit has been given, the word by which we are to be instructed is in our hands, and the light which will illuminate that sacred page is promised us through the Holy Ghost. Things promised ought to encourage us to come to Christ, but things already given ought to be irresistible attractions. All things are already completed by the sacred Trinity before we come to cry for mercy; this should make us very hopeful and eager in our approaches to the Lord. Come, sinner, come at once; this ought to encourage thee, since all that God has to do in thy salvation is done before thou hast a thought of Him or turnest one foot towards his abode. All welcome! things are ready. Come!

This also proves how welcome those are who come. If you are invited to see a friend, and when you reach the place you find the door fast, and after knocking many times no one answers, for there is no one at home, you reckon that there is some mistake, or that the invitation was not a sincere one. Even if your host should come to the door and admit you, but should evidently be embarrassed, for there is no meal provided and he has made no arrangements for your rest at night, you soon detect it, and like a wise man you quickly move off somewhere else, for if you had been welcome, things would have been prepared for you. But oh, poor soul, if thou comest to God all things are ready for thine entertainment.

"Spread for thee the festal board,
With his richest dainties stored."

The couch of rest and quietness is prepared for thee. All things are ready. How freely doth Jehovah welcome thee, how genuine is the invitation, how sincere the desire that thou shouldst come to feast with Him.

I Go to Prepare a Place for You

One of these days it may be that you and I shall either be grown very old, or else disease will lay hold upon us, and we shall lie upon the sickbed watching and waiting for our Master's coming. Then there shall suddenly appear a messenger from Him, who will bring us this word, 'All things are ready, come unto the supper,' and closing our eyes on earth, we shall open them in Heaven and see what He has done who so sweetly said: "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." Oh! it will be a joyous moment when we shall hear the summons, "All things are ready, quit thy house of clay, thy farm, thy merchandise, and even her who lies in thy bosom, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and thou must be there; therefore, rise up my love, my fair one, and come away. The winter is over and past, the time of the singing of birds is come for thee. All things are ready, come!"

The Perfect Readiness of the Feast of Divine Mercy Is Evidently Intended to Be a Strong Argument With Sinners Why They Should Come at Once

To the sinner, then, do I address myself.

Soul, dost thou desire eternal life? Is there within thy spirit a hungering and a thirsting after such things as may satisfy thy spirit and make thee live forever? Then hearken while the Master's servant gives thee the invitation. Come, for all things are . . . ready"—all, not some, but all. There is nothing that thou canst need between here and Heaven but what is provided in Jesus Christ,

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Thou must not say, "I cannot come because I have not this, or have not this, or have not that." Art thou to prepare the feast? Art thou to provide anything? Art thou the purveyor of even so much as the salt or the water? Thou knowest not thy true condition, or thou wouldst not dream of such a thing. The great Householder Himself has provided the whole of the feast, thou hast nothing to do with the provision but to partake of it.

If thou lackest, come and take what thou lackest; the greater thy need the greater reason why thou shouldst come where all things that thy need can possibly want will be at once supplied. If thou be so needy that thou hast nothing good at all about thee, all things are ready. What wouldst thou provide more when God has provided all things? Superfluity of naughtiness would it be if thou wert to think of adding to His "all things"; it would be but a presumptuous competing with the provisions of the great King, and this He will not endure. All that thou wantest—I can but repeat the words—between the gates of Hell, where thou now liest, and the gates of Heaven, to which grace will bring thee if thou believest—all is provided and prepared in Jesus Christ the Saviour.

Ready

And all things are ready, dwell on that word. The oxen and the fatlings were killed; what is more, they were prepared to be eaten, they were ready to be feasted on, they smoked on the board. It is something when the king gives orders for the slaughter of so many bullocks for the feast, but the feast is not ready then; and when beneath the poleax the victims fall, and they are stripped and hung up ready for the fire, there is something done, but they are not ready. It is when the joints are served hot and steaming upon the table, and all that is wanted is brought forth and laid in proper order for the banquet, it is then that all things are ready, and this is the case now; at this very moment thou wilt find the feast to be in the best possible condition; it was never better and never can be better than it is now. All things are ready, just in the exact condition that thou needest them to be, just in such condition as shall be best for thy soul's comfort and enjoyment. All things are ready; nothing needs to be further mellowed or sweetened; everything is at the best that eternal love can make it.

Now!

But notice the word "now," "All things are now ready"—just now, at this moment. At feasts, you know, the good housewife is often troubled if the guests come late. She would be sorry if they came half-an-hour too soon, but half-an-hour too late spoils everything, and in what a state of fret and worry she is in if, when all things are now ready, her friends still delay. Leave food at the fire awhile, and it does not seem to be "now ready," but something more than ready, and even spoiled.

So doth the Great Householder lay stress upon this, all things are now ready, therefore come at once. He saith not that if thou wilt tarry for another seven years, all things will then be ready; God grant that long before that space of time thou mayest have got beyond the needs of persuasion by having become a taster of the feast; but He doth say that they are all ready, just now. Just now, that your heart is so heavy and your mind so careless, that your spirit is so wandering, all things are ready now, though you have never thought of these things before, though your sins be as the stars of heaven, and your soul trembles under an awful foreboding of coming judgment, yet "All things are now ready."

And if they are ready now, the argument is, come now. While the

Spirit lingers and still doth strive with men, while mercy's gates still stand wide open that "whoever will may come," while life and health and reason still are spared to you and the ministering voice that bids thee come can still be heard, come now, come at once! Delay is as unreasonable as it is wicked, now that all things are ready.

Reader, if you do not come to Christ, you will perish, but you never will be able to say you were not bidden.

You Need Not Wait Till You Are Ready

This text disposes of a great deal of talk about the sinner's readiness or unreadiness; because if the reason why a sinner is to come is because all things are ready, then it is idle for him to say, "But I am not ready." It is clear that all the readiness required on man's part is a willingness to come and receive the blessing which God has provided. Where the Lord has been pleased to touch the will so that man has a desire toward Christ, where the heart really hungers and thirsts after righteousness, that is all the readiness wanted. All the fitness He requireth is that you feel your need of Him (and that He gives you), and that, secondly, in feeling your need of Him you are willing to come to Him. Willingness to come is everything. A readiness to believe in Jesus, a willingness to cast the soul on Him, a preparedness to accept Him just as He is, because you feel that He is just the Saviour you need—that is all; there was no other readiness, there could have been none, in the case of those who were poor, and blind, and halt, and maimed, yet came to the feast. The text does not say, "You are ready, therefore come," that is a legal way of putting the Gospel; but it says, "All things are ready, the Gospel is ready, therefore you are to come."

Why Do You Delay?

Now notice that the unreadiness of those who were bidden arose out of their possessions and out of their abilities. One would not come because he had bought a piece of land. What a great heap Satan casts up between the soul and the Saviour! What with worldly possessions and good deeds he builds an earthwork of huge dimensions between the sinner and his Lord. Some gentlemen have too many acres ever to come to Christ; they think too much of the world to think much of Him. Many have too many fields of good works in which there are growing crops in which they pride themselves, and these cause them to feel that they are persons of great importance. Many a man cannot come to Christ for all things because he has so much already. Others of them could not come because they had so much to do, and could do it well—one had bought five yoke of oxen, he was going to prove them. A strong man quite able for ploughing; the reason why he did not come was because he had so much ability. Thousands are kept away from grace by what they have and by what they can do. Emptiness is more preparatory to a feast than fullness. How often does it happen that poverty and inability even help to lead the soul to Christ! When a man thinketh himself to be rich, he will not come to the Saviour. When a man dreameth that he is able at any time to repent and believe and to do everything for himself that is wanted, he is not likely to come and by a simple faith repose in Christ.

It is not what you have not, but what you have, that keeps many from Christ. Sinful self is a devil, but righteous self is seven devils. The man who feels himself guilty may for awhile be kept away by his guilt, but the man who is self-righteous will never come; until the Lord has taken his pride away from him he will still refuse the feast of free grace. The possession of abilities and honors and riches keep men from coming to the Redeemer.

But on the other hand, personal condition does not constitute an unfitness for coming to Christ, for the sad condition of those who became guests did not debar them from the supper. Some were poor,

and doubtless wretched and ragged; they had not a penny to bless themselves with, as we say; their garments were tattered, perhaps worse, they were filthy, they were not fit to be near respectable people, they would certainly be no credit to my Lord's table; but those who went to bring them in did not search their pockets, nor look at their coats, but they fetched them in. They were poor, but the messengers were told to bring in the poor, and therefore brought them. Their poverty did not prevent their being ready; and oh, poor soul, if thou be poor literally, or poor originally, neither sort of poverty can constitute an unfitness for divine mercy.

Another class of them were maimed. One had lost a nose, another an arm. So, poor soul, however Satan may have torn and lopped thee and into whatsoever condition he may have brought thee, so that thou feelest ashamed to live—just as thou art, thou mayest come to the table of grace. Moral disfigurements are soon rectified when Jesus takes you in hand. Come thou to Him, however sadly thou art disfigured by sin.

There were others who were halt, that is, their leg was no use to them, and they could not come unless they had a crutch to crawl upon, nevertheless there was no reason why they were not welcome. Ah! if you find it difficult to believe, it is no reason why you should not come and receive the grand absolution which Jesus Christ is ready to bestow upon you. Lame with doubting and mistrusting, nevertheless come and say, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

Others were blind; but a blind man can come if a messenger brings him. All that was wanted was a willingness to be led by the hand in the right direction. Now you that cannot fully understand the Gospel, that are puzzled

and muddled, give your hand to Jesus and be willing to be led by Him, be willing to believe what you cannot comprehend and to grasp in confidence that which you are not yet able to measure with your understanding.

Here comes a poor man who has had nothing to eat for the last forty-eight hours. Look at his eager delight at the sight of the food! If you want somebody to eat largely and joyfully, is not he the man? See how he takes it in! It is wonderful how the provisions disappear before him!

Here again is a poor woman who has been picked up by the wayside, faint for want of bread. She has scarcely any life in her, but see how she begins to open her eyes at the first morsel that is placed before her, and what delight there is in her every expression as she finds herself placed at a table so richly loaded! Yes, the poorer, the more hungry, the more destitute the guests, the more honor is accorded to the king who feeds such mendicants, and receives such vagrants to his table. Hear how they shout the king's praises when they are filled with his meat! They will never have done thanking him.

Now, if I address a soul that is very needy, very faint, very desponding, you are a fit guest for my Master, because you have such a fine appetite for His generous repast of love. The greatness of your need is your fitness for coming to Christ, and if you want to know how to come, come just as you are. Tarry not to improve yourself one single atom; come as you are.

How Can I Come to Christ?

"Ah," you say, "I hear that if I come to Christ I shall be saved; but how can I come to Him? What do you mean by coming to Jesus?" Well, our reply is plain and clear—it is to trust Christ, to depend upon Him, to believe Him,

to rely upon Him. You enquire, "But how can I come to Christ? In what way would you recommend me to come?" The answer is: the very best way to come to Christ is to come with all your needs about you.

Suppose a physician should come to town and give it out that what he wants is not to make money, but to cure people out of motives of pure benevolence, without charging any fees; the poorest will be welcomed and the most diseased will be best received. Well, here is a person who has cut his finger; will the doctor rush to attend him? Here comes another gratis patient who has a wart on his hand. There is nothing famous about curing cut fingers and warts, and the physician is by no means excited over the work.

But here is a poor forlorn body who has been given up by all other doctors, a patient who is so bad that he lies at death's door; he has such a complication of diseases that he could hardly tell what diseases he has not suffered from, but certainly his condition is terrible enough to make it appear hopeless. He seems to be a living wonder of disease. That is the man who may come boldly to the physician, and expect his immediate attention and his best con-

(Continued on page 10)

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33 years pastor Trinity Methodist Church, Los Angeles, California

About the Book . . .

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About the Author . . .

Dr. R. P. ("Fighting Bob") Shuler is one of the best known men in Methodist circles. An old-time fundamentalist who believes God meant what He said and said what He meant, he has behind him over fifty-five years of faithful service for His Master in the Methodist ministry. For thirty-three of those years, until his forced retirement because of church age regulations,

he pastored the great Trinity Methodist Church of Los Angeles, California.

Following his father into the ministry, Dr. Shuler has three sons who are walking in his ministerial footsteps: R. P., Jr., Phil and Jack. In addition to this volume, he is the author of *Some Dogs I Have Known* and *What New Doctrine Is This?*

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Communism and the . . . Faith

(Continued from page 1)

Christ, while paying no direct attention to social problems or even to seemingly great moral issues, outside of the church itself. It is amazing to look through the New Testament epistles and see the lack of any attack on political oppression, social injustice, or even slavery itself. Yet the effect of the preaching of the Gospel was to humanize the heart of the slaveholder, to Christianize the attitude of the slave, and to cause both, if they had accepted Christ as Saviour, to look upon one another as brothers, and in time to see the folly of the institution of slavery. At last the imperial throne itself was affected, and the whole fabric of government was changed, as converted individuals sought to apply truly Christian principles to their personal relationships. The Historic Christian Faith was the dynamite which struck at the very root of the corrupt practices, and wicked organization of the Roman world. No social planning the world has ever seen has accomplished anything like as much for the betterment of humanity as the changed character brought about by the preaching of the Gospel.

I wish that every one of you might read the book by Dr. J. W. Bready entitled, *England Before and After Wesley*. This book graphically depicts the desperate conditions to which English social life had fallen at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Wesley came preaching salvation through Christ, and urging people of all classes to accept Jesus as Saviour and Lord. None of his effort was directed toward reform of the social order. Yet, the result of his preaching, as Bready so vividly proves, was that England took the greatest step forward in the improvement of social conditions that has ever occurred in its history.

When men are willing and anxious to present the message of personal salvation through Christ, and when this presentation is not forcibly prevented, these are the effects which come. Look at the progress which was made in the countries of northern Europe since the Reformation, and contrast the comparative backwardness of the countries of southern Europe, their poverty and their degradation. The reason for the differ-

ence is clear. During these centuries, most of the countries of northern Europe have allowed freedom to preach the Gospel, and multitudes in these nations have come to know Christ as Saviour. The resulting improvement in character has shown itself in betterment of every phase of life.

—REV. ALLAN A. MACRAE,
Th.B., Ph.D., F.R.G.S.,
President and Professor of
Old Testament

A.B., Occidental College, 1922; A.M., ibid., 1923; Th.B., Princeton Theological Seminary, 1927; A.M., Princeton University, 1927; University of Berlin, 1927-29; American School of Oriental Research, Jerusalem, 1929; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 1936; Fellow, Royal Geographical Society, 1956.

At the time of the Reformation, Spain and Italy were economically and politically ahead of the northern countries. When the work of Martin Luther reached those lands, thousands of people began to show interest in the Gospel. Then the cruel and clever Inquisition pitilessly searched out the men who believed in salvation through faith alone, destroyed them and burned their books, and in the southern half of Europe for nearly three centuries it was practically impossible for anyone to hear the Gospel. The northern countries went ahead, and the southern ones sank into comparative degradation and poverty. Today it is these countries, where the Gospel was so long forbidden, which are most open to the entrance of communism. The best antidote to communism is the preaching of the Historic Christian Faith.

At this point, someone may wish to ask, did not Christianity win its way against the persecutions of the Roman Empire? During the first three centuries of its history, the Christian Church was frequently purged and purified by the great persecutions which the Roman emperors set afoot. It should be noticed, however, that these were sporadic and far from continuous. Between them there were long periods in which the laws against Christianity were hardly noticed. Between the persecution of Decius and the last and greatest of all, that of Diocletian, there was a period of nearly forty years in which the church was free from all restraint on the part of the law, and was able to preach

the Gospel freely. At the beginning of Diocletian's persecution, there was a very large Christian church right across the street from the emperor's palace, and members of Diocletian's own family, as well as top officials in his government, were known as professing Christians.

The situation under the Roman Empire was very different from that in a communist country today, with its brain washings, and constant spying. Only recently we heard of thirty Chinese preachers being executed for refusal to promise to stop preaching the Gospel of Christ. Under a communist government, propagation of Christianity is considered as counter-revolution. While freedom of religious worship is guaranteed by the Russian constitution, spreading of the Gospel is forbidden. It is only freedom of anti-religious propaganda that is permitted.

In recent years the World Council of Churches, through its affiliate, the International Missionary Council, and through the activities of its various national councils, such as the "National Council of Churches" in the United States of America, has been seeking to keep Bible-believing missionaries out of mission lands, and to get control of the radio, of the chaplaincy, and of the pulpits of our great denominations. It is hard to think of anything that could do more to further the cause of communism than this attempt to decrease the opportunity to preach the Word of God.

This leads us naturally to our second point:

II. The Socialist Message of Modernists

In recent years, many of those who should have been preaching the historic Christian faith have, instead, been doing their utmost to forward another religion, one which actually has little to distinguish it from the economic and social tenets of the communism which is now in control of Russia and its satellites.

About forty years ago, when modernism began to enter with force into many of our American colleges and theological seminaries, people who were seeking to be trained for Christian leadership found their faith in the Bible destroyed. Many of them no longer believed that it was important that the world should be brought to know of the personal salvation

Puzzle No. 10 is a real tough one—or at least it was before I sneaked in a couple of extra clues! But, ssssh! Don't tell the boss I helped you out! You see, I have to work all these puzzles too, and once in a while I find a word that really has me going around in circles. I usually have to check the dictionary, the Bible, the concordance, and sometimes my husband even helps me out (He's pretty smart). You can do the same—ask someone you like for help.

And speaking of the boss—He said I could offer FREE his little booklet, *Saved for Certain*, to each one of you who sends us Puzzle No. 10—complete and correct. This is a wonderful book which has been blessed of God to bring assurance of salvation to many—a gift worth working for.

Here are the simple rules:

1. Fill in the empty blanks according to the clues given. Please print clearly.
2. Print (not write) your own name and address in the blank below the puzzle and mail to: Aunt Jessie, PUZZLE EDITOR, The Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois. We cannot return entries. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of THE SWORD you may print your answers on another piece of paper in proper order.

3. To receive the booklet, *Saved for Certain*, your entry must be postmarked by midnight, Thursday, February 16, 1956. The answer to Puzzle No. 10 will appear in the February 24 issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

'All Things Are Ready: Come'

(Continued from page 9)

sideration. Now, doctor, if you can cure this man he will be a credit to you. This man exactly answers to your advertisement. You say that you only wish for patients who will give you an opportunity of displaying your skill. Here is a fine object for your pity, he is bad at the lungs, bad at the heart, bad in the feet, bad in the eyes, bad in the ears, bad in the head, bad all over. If you want an opportunity of showing your skill, here is the man.

Jesus, my Lord and Master, is the Great Physician of souls, and He heals them on just such terms as I have mentioned. Are you a fargone sinner? Are you a deeply sick soul? Are you a man or woman who is bad altogether? Come along, my friend, you are just in a right condition to come to Jesus Christ. *Come just as you are*, that is the best style of "coming."

"What," saith one, "can you mean it, that I, an unfeeling, unrepentant wretch, am bidden to come at once and believe in Jesus Christ for everlasting life?" I mean just that. I do not mean to send you round to that shop for repentance and to the other shop for feeling, and to a third store for a tender heart, and then direct you to call on Christ at last for a few odds and ends. No, no but come to Christ for everything.

available through Jesus Christ, and of the necessity of receiving Him as Saviour of our souls and Lord of our lives. They no longer considered the Bible to be the infallible Word of God. This loss of faith created a vacuum in their lives. They were preachers and teachers, and they needed something about which they could become enthusiastic. Gradually the gap was filled with another religion, the goal of which, as I shall point out, is very close to that of present-day communism.

This religion came to be called the "social gospel." It should be clearly pointed out that the Christians have always stood for amelioration of the suffering of this world. Philanthropic interest in those less fortunate than ourselves

*Come, ye needy, come and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh,
Without money
Come to Jesus Christ and buy.*

I heard of a shop some time ago in a country town where they sold everything, and the man said that he did not believe there was anything a human being wanted but what he could rig him out from top to toe. Well, I do not know whether that promise would have been carried out to the letter if it had been tried, but I know it is so with Jesus Christ; He can supply you with all you need, for "Christ is all." There is not a need your soul can possibly have but the Lord Jesus Christ can supply it, and the very best way to come is to come to Him for everything.

Trust Jesus Christ, that is all, just as you are, with all your unfitness and unreadiness. Take what God has made ready for you, the precious blood to cleanse you, a robe of righteousness to cover you, eternal joy to be your portion. Receive the grace of God in Christ Jesus, oh! receive it now. God grant you may, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

(From the book, THE WAY OF LIFE, Moody Colportage Series, 35c.)

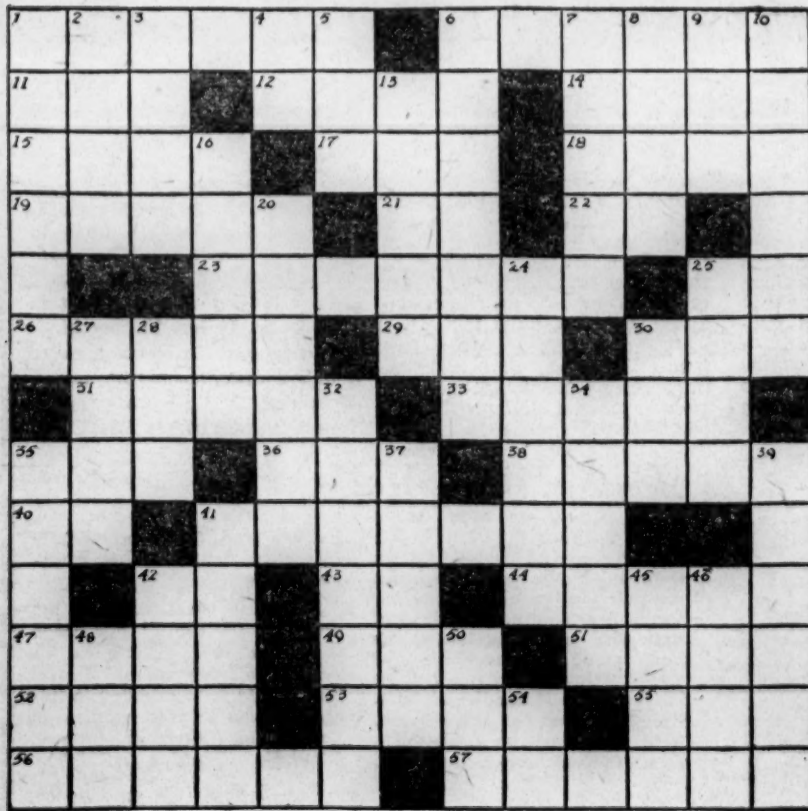
is common to all true Christians. It can safely be said that a far greater amount of true betterment of social conditions has come from the results of Christianity than from any other source. This "social gospel," however, was not simply a matter of suggesting that we do everything that we can to help others. It developed into a plan for complete reorganization of social life.

What the adherents of the social gospel advanced was, apparently, a very simple plan. It amounted merely to this. If anyone possesses more than his fellows do, take it away from him and give it to others. Establish a situation in which no human being has opportunity on account of what he

(Continued on page 11)

Sssh! Don't Tell the Boss!

By Aunt Jessie



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

CLEWS ACROSS

- 1 She superseded Queen Vashti as the King's favorite (Esther 2:7).
- 6 A just and devout man who took up the child Jesus in his arms, and blessed God (Luke 2:25).
- 11 Put
- 12 A gleaner
- 14 Book of Norse mythology
- 15 Son of Bani (I Chron. 9:4).
- 17 Attention
- 18 Mother of Castor and Pollux. Gr. myth.
- 19 Dost see?
- 21 Note
- 22 Preposition
- 23 Mountain in Syria—source of timber for Solomon's temple (Deut. 1:7).
- 25 Exclamation
- 26 Son of Terah; also Isaac's father (Gen. 11:26).
- 29 Expose to moisture.
- 30 One of Jacob's sons (Gen. 30:6).
- 31 Carried by the ten virgins, in the parable (Matt. 25:1).
- 33 Place of departed spirits
- 35 Plant exudation
- 36 Tree trunk
- 38 One of the four living creatures in John's vision of God's throne (Rev. 4:7).
- 40 Note (—E, Abb.)
- 41 Those who cut down trees
- 42 Degree
- 43 Act
- 44 A word used many times in Psalms; meaning not known
- 47 The scribe commissioned by Artaxerxes to rebuild the temple. (Ezra 7:1)
- 49 Fury
- 51 Queen and reputed founder of Carthage (— — — D —)
- 52 Island in the Aegean Sea, visited by Paul
- 53 Regards attentively
- 55 Conductor of an omnibus (Dickens)
- 56 Religious festival
- 57 Basins—there were ten in the temple, each containing forty baths (Exod. 30:18).

CLEWS DOWN

- 1 He received Elijah's mantle
- 2 Identical
- 3 A city of great wealth in Phoenicia, which was visited by Christ

PUZZLE NUMBER 10

- 4 Judah's oldest son (Gen. 38:3)
- 5 Garden herb tithed by Pharisees (Luke 11:42).
- 6 Tombs of saints
- 7 Fruit of Egypt and Palestine, often weighing thirty pounds
- 8 Paradise
- 9 Uneven
- 10 A Syrian, whose leprosy was cured by Elisha (II Kings 5:1).
- 13 Absalom's sister, whose name means "a palm tree"
- 16 Mohammedanism
- 20 House of the Lord, built at Jerusalem
- 24 Additional ones
- 25 Passage
- 27 Color
- 28 Offering of Abraham, after the angel stayed his hand from slaying Isaac
- 30 Scavenger of the East
- 32 One who serves in the army
- 34 Assuaged
- 35 Country of Europe—formerly Hellas
- 37 Celestial Honor. The earth is full of it (Isa. 6:3).
- 39 Garments worn by high priests
- 41 Festival (Prov. 15:15).
- 42 Brothers (Abb.)
- 45 The third plague of Egypt
- 46 Twelfth month of the Jewish calendar—time of almond blossoms
- 48 Modern suffix (animals)
- 50 Fish
- 54 Continent

Answer to Puzzle Number 8



Communism and the . . . Faith

(Continued from page 10)

owns, to direct the activities of others, but in which all will be ordered and organized in such a way that each will receive what he needs, and that all will work together for the common good.

This sounds, at first, like a very beautiful theory. Unfortunately, however, it is a theory which does not recognize the weaknesses of human nature. It is quite impractical. It has been tried by small colonies many times, through the centuries, and has usually resulted in utter failure. Co-operation among human beings is most desirable, and there are many ways of securing it. But the idea that all society should be reorganized into a socialistic or communistic organization, with the economic activities of all subordinated to a general master plan, is one which finds no warrant in the Bible, and which does not work out in practical experience.

The propulsion for this plan inevitably comes to be based upon an unthinking hate. Here is a man who owns something; therefore, he is an oppressor. Here is a man who is in a position of authority; therefore, he is an exploiter.

Now, of course, it is true that there are often men in positions of authority who are exploiters or oppressors. This is a matter of human nature. Reverse the situation and the man who is now exploited will often prove himself to be an even worse oppressor.

A minister has told me of his experience with this new gospel, as a student in one of the oldest and best known of American theological seminaries, about forty years ago. He said that the professor of Old Testament was constantly talking about social reform and social change, until the students got very tired of it and asked him if he couldn't give them some lessons on the Bible. The professor said, "All right, we will study the Book of Exodus." He began with the first chapter of Exodus, but it wasn't very long before he was comparing the Israelites in Egypt to "the oppressed working classes of today," comparing Moses to a labor leader, and saying that the deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian oppression was typical of deliverance from the whole capitalistic system.

Many students were indoctrinated with this teaching. Churches desiring men who would preach to them the Gospel of salvation through Christ, often found themselves saddled with ministers who were propagandizing them to work and struggle for the complete change of our social system.

Our third point is this:

III. "Social Gospel" of Marxists Fails

This other religion is powerless to accomplish its avowed purpose.

Preachers of the social gospel in this country often pointed with great interest to the experiment in Russia. While occasionally disassociating themselves from some of its aspects, they were constantly praising it as a forward step in the direction of their aim. The Soviet government has had nearly thirty-five years of absolute domination in Russia, and during this time has been free to use every instrument it might desire to forward its aim of introducing the universal socialistic society to which it is ideologically devoted. What is the result? Today the standard of living of the average Russian is far lower than that of the people of western Europe, to say nothing of those of the United States. The difference between the standard of living of the top bureaucrats and that of the rank and file of the working class, is actually greater than that between almost any two classes in any nation of western Europe, or America. In Germany, which is now divided into a section devoted to Russian communism and another in which western ideas are supreme, the standard of living of the two parts simply bears no comparison. People are constantly fleeing from the eastern zone to the western zone, and this movement is not only one from tyranny to freedom, but is also affected by the desire to enjoy the material benefits of a system so different from the socialist Utopia.

Here we see the results of the social gospel. Experience demonstrates that it is impotent to accomplish what it claims to be able to do. Why is this? It is because socialism, at its best, is simply a plan for a distribution of what is already being produced. It has in it no dynamic which can increase production, and thus advance a nation economically and industrially.

During the Middle Ages, the great bulk of the population of Europe was sunk in deepest poverty, compelled to work long hours for very meager rations. There just was not enough produced to go around. A small class of knights, whose armor made it possible for one of them to overcome any twenty of the common people, lived in comparative luxury—luxury, however, which would seem poor indeed, compared to the standard of living of the average person of western Europe today. Had the leaders of the World Council of Churches been active at that time, they would have said, "What is necessary is to take what the knights have and divide it up among the peasants, so that all will have an equal amount, and then with a socialistic system of distribution, there will be justice for all." The trouble is that to take what the knights had and divide it up among the rest of the people at that time would have raised the standard of living of the mass of the people hardly one per cent. The only result would be to sink the knights to an equal level with the others.

At least once a century during the Middle Ages, in almost every country of Europe, there was a great uprising of the peasants against the tyranny of the knights. These peasant uprisings were put down with terrible slaughter. They were a cry of protest against the want in which the people lived. Yet, to have divided up the property of the knights would not materially have helped any of them.

Today all of the western world has a higher standard of living than anyone had during the Middle Ages. The reason is not a system of planned distribution or socialistic organization. It is because a few people of ability and energy found opportunity to improve methods of production. They themselves made wealth out of it, but the standard of living of the whole area was raised. By the process of industrialization, and the freeing of individual enterprise in modern times, groups here

and there were able to produce more. While they themselves profited greatly, the increased production accrued to the benefit of all. The amount of goods available was constantly being increased, and competition made different groups bid against one another. Thus, the results were distributed more and more widely. It is free enterprise which has raised the world's standard of living.

The word "capitalism" is often used synonymously with "free enterprise." It is unfortunate that this is the case. The true emphasis of the word is not on the fact that control of economic activities is in the hands of one who has money, over against one who does not have money. In any economic system, control over activities cannot be evenly distributed. Some individuals must have control and direction over the work of others. The stress in capitalism is on the fact that it is a flexible system, rather than a fixed one. The word came into being in contrast to the systems of the Middle Ages, in which control rested in a man's hands because he happened to be born into a certain family, or inherited landed estates, or was a favorite of someone. Under a system of semi-socialism, the power to direct the economic activities of others is in the hands of those who have been elected for that purpose. Political acumen is what determines direction of economic activities. This does not lead to a successful economy. Under a true capitalistic system, the power to control economic activities comes into the hands of men who have proved themselves to have ability to earn, to produce, to accumulate, and thus have moved forward in the hurly-burly of competition. In this way the men able to increase production are in the positions where their abilities can be utilized, and everyone benefits.

It has often been said in America that it is three generations from shirt-sleeves to shirt-sleeves.

Very frequently in our country a man has elevated himself from the mass through hard toil and careful thinking, has accumulated money, and has succeeded in using it in such a way as to increase production and benefit the whole nation. A son, well-trained under a capable father, was able to go forward and make a real contribution to the nation. His sons, however, devoted themselves to enjoying the money that they had, instead of trying to develop what latent abilities they might have inherited, and soon lost what they had and thus the money was redistributed. Capitalism is a fluid system in which the men who have ability in industry and accomplishment rise to the top through competition, rather than through being selected by some politician, as in the Soviet regime, or through being born into a particular family, as in so many sections of the world.

Under a system of free enterprise, it is not generally what a man has inherited, but what he is able to earn that gives him power. The United States of America has been largely free from the artificial shackling of hereditary power or established systems. Enterprise has been freer than anywhere else in the world. As a result, this nation has become the most powerful nation in the world today. It was not the war that made the United States powerful. Actually it poured more resources into the war than Germany, Russia, and Great Britain put together. The war weakened, rather than strengthened, America. It simply made apparent the great amount of strength that had been latent here. This strength had been developed as a result of the system of free enterprise, which stimulated the abilities of our people and caused that those of industrial and economic ability and leadership should come to the front, not simply because somebody liked them and appointed them or because they were able

to persuade somebody to vote for them, but because they proved their abilities in the hurly-burly of competition and activity.

The free enterprise system is the hen that laid the golden egg. Modernists and World Council leaders desire to kill the hen and take the gold that is in it and divide it up, so that all will have an equal amount. If they do so, not only will the prospects of future advance be killed, but our nations will, inevitably, sink back to an economic standard much inferior to that which we now enjoy.

The failure of the socialistic principle has frequently been demonstrated in the history of Soviet Russia. Thus, in the '20s it was necessary to introduce the so-called "New Economic Policy," by which a large measure of free enterprise was permitted in Moscow marketing. By this temporary return to free enterprise, the economy was pulled out of the morass into which it had fallen.

Another interesting instance occurred about 1930, when Stalin desired to secure more gold to use in purchasing machinery and goods from western nations. The

(Continued on page 12)

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News Notes

(Continued from page 6)

when legislation authorizing it was before Congress early this year, got under way last October with a group of 672 teenagers and 495 national guardsmen. The Army plans to train 90,000 youths during the coming year.

In its report to Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson, the commission recommended tough military training for the youthful reservists, who after completion of the six-month training camp indoctrination will spend seven and one half years in the active reserves. But it devoted most of its report to the need of meeting the moral problems involved in taking large groups of 18-year-olds out of their normal environment.

The Commission urged that the trainees be given "little, if any, leave or time off base." It said the Army should keep strict watch to see that no intoxicating beverages are available to the young trainees, and to make sure that prostitution is prohibited in the vicinity of the training camps. It made a number of suggestions concerning recreation facilities and lecture series, and asked that arrangements be made whereby families and friends of the trainees may visit with them on weekends and during off-duty hours.

(ERA-11/9/55).

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Communism and the . . . Faith

(Continued from page 11)

best experts were sent out, equipped with modern devices, to hunt for gold in the wastes of Siberia. Comparatively little was accomplished, and only a small fraction of the desired gold was found. It was decided that in order to do it, a type of activity must be encouraged, which they had attempted to suppress. Word was given out that men would be permitted freely to go and prospect for gold, and would be well paid for what they found, even being allowed to spend their money at special stores, where they could buy western goods, that were not available to citizens of Soviet Russia, aside from the bureaucrats themselves. Large numbers of prospectors went out and endured privations, hunting for gold, and great amounts of gold were discovered. The principle of free enterprise, in Russia as well as in America, is the principle which results in increase of production, and, consequently, in having more to distribute. Also, free enterprise when unhampered, results in competition for sales among companies, leads inevitably to better distribution, and raises the standard of living for all, as it has done in this country.

IV. Socialism-Communism Leads to Dictatorship and Loss of Freedom

Now let us look at our fourth point. We have seen that this other religion is powerless to accomplish its avowed purposes. We go on to say that in fact it is bound to lead to great harm instead of good.

No one can know much of what has happened in Russia in recent years, without seeing the tyranny, the brutality, and the cruelty which is there. Under the Soviet system, anyone who dissents in the slightest degree soon finds himself subjected to brutal torture and imprisonment. Time fails to describe the brutalities and injustices which are so common under the cruel tyranny of the Soviet regime. Anyone who has a question about these matters has only to read such books as Eugene Lyons, *Assignment to Utopia*, Victor Kravchenko, *I Chose Freedom*, or Elinor Lipper, *Eleven Years in Soviet Prison Camps*. The evidence is clear, and is available to anyone who will look at it. Never in the history of the world, including the worst tyrannies the world has ever seen, has there been a more brutal system of constant interference with the liberty and life of the ordinary man. It is a brutality which enters into every little detail of life, and insists, not merely that people must not actively oppose the regime, but that every part of their thinking must be held steadily in line with the desires of the masters of the Kremlin.

At this point a spokesman of the World Council of Churches would say: "Is it not unfortunate that these great innovators, these men who are seeking for social justice, should have allowed tyranny and brutality to enter into their system?" However, a little reflection will show that the brutality is not something incidental, but is a necessary result of the attempt to introduce the system which the social gospels and the communists desire. Theoretically, communism is based upon the Marxist slogan, "From each according to his ability, to each according to his need." A very little reflection will show us a great difficulty with this slogan. Who is to decide how much I should be able to produce for the state? Who is to decide how much I need? In the nature of things, this cannot be decided by a democratic process. It cannot be decided by each individual declaring how little work he should be made to do and how much he should receive. Some other method is necessary. In the system of free enterprise, it is decided on a basis of competition. It must be freely admitted that there are inevitable inequalities. Yet, if those who have ability to produce are given incentive and opportunity to do so, the distribution system constantly improves itself, and the

standard of living of all is sporadically but continuously rising. Under the communistic system, the decision on these matters must be made by someone. The result inevitably is tyranny. A group of bureaucrats must soon control the destinies of all the people. Naturally people are not going to be satisfied with the decisions of the bureaucrats. The only way that a communistic system can continue is by constant spying, arrests, concentration camps, and brutality. What we have in Russia is not simply the result of the wickedness of certain godless men, but is an inevitable feature of the system itself.

Without this forceful and tyrannical control, the system would be upset very quickly by the rising dissatisfaction of those who wanted more than they were allotted, and who felt that they were asked to do more work than they desired. Nearly everyone would be dissatisfied, except the few bureaucrats in charge, and the system would soon disappear into chaos.

Here an explanation of a vital point is in order. There is much discussion of communism ideology, as if the vital matter in facing Russian communism was the Marxian theories of economics and sociology. In actual fact, this whole question is more of a banner and a means of gaining recruits in other countries, than something that is vital to the system itself. Marx originated the ideology to which the communists give lip-service, but the actual basic center of the movement was originated by Lenin, rather than by Marx. Lenin was a great student of the science of power. He worked out principles of how an individual or a group of individuals could control great masses of others. In January 1918 a great Russian parliament, elected by free suffrage of the whole people, met together for its first meeting. When its members came together for their second meeting, they were met at the door by troops which Lenin had sent to drive them away. And never again was a freely elected parliament of the Russian people allowed to meet.

Lenin's brilliant mind worked out a clever system of complete control from the top down by means of espionage, brain washings, recurrent purgings of the party, and frequent examination of the record of a man's whole life, to be sure that he is politically reliable. Most ingenious systems of torture were devised to find what is in a man's heart. A wonderful system of power was developed. By means of this system of power, a little group representing scarcely more than one per cent of the Russian people, and itself absolutely controlled by a very small group of leaders, holds complete domination over many millions, in such a way that a tiny step of deviation is enough to cause a man to be liquidated or reduced to slavery. No rebellion can get a start because the very slightest expression of dissatisfaction is immediately detected and punished. It is a clever system of power. It has been taught to men who have introduced it into other nations, while themselves remaining under its control, and subject to the masters of the Kremlin. One mistake was made in the case of Tito. The blind optimists who direct the foreign policies of some of our nations keep wishfully thinking that Mao Tse Tung will follow in the same line. It can safely be said that the masters of the Kremlin will never make another mistake of the type which they made in Yugoslavia. China is tightly bound to Moscow's control.

Only a person who is determined not to believe it, can possibly doubt the purpose of the Soviet rulers to gain complete control of the entire world. Never pausing in their aggression, save when faced with superior power, they have constantly and ruthlessly pushed forward. One after another, by deceit, by fraud, or by outright aggression, they have taken the nations of eastern Europe and of northern Asia. They will make any sort of a compromise or deal to gain their

end. Once they have gained their point, pacts and promises mean absolutely nothing to them. They agreed at Potsdam that Germany should be administered as one unit, with each of the four powers administering its separate area and all co-operating in the overall government of the country. Yet, almost immediately, they put an Iron Curtain around eastern Germany, forced its citizens to hear a constant barrage of communistic propaganda, and imprisoned, brutally tortured, or exiled to Siberia those who showed lack of interest in the communistic ideology. Thousands of people were forced to work in the uranium mines, at great constant danger of their lives, to produce the material with which to overthrow the free world. Spy rings have been discovered in one after another of our free nations, and it would be foolhardy indeed to say that others are not still active.

It is dismaying to have to notice our fifth point:

V. Socialist-Modernists Control World Council of Churches

The proponents of this other religion have control of the leadership of the World Council of Churches.

Before the unprovoked aggression of North Korea had aroused such strong anti-communist feeling in this country, modernist leaders frequently made statements praising various aspects of the Russian system. An instance in point is a note which I happened to see in a Methodist Sunday School magazine, a few years ago. It read something like this: "Russia made a suggestion in the United Nations that all the nations should disarm. Nothing was done about it. Russia has again made the suggestion that all the nations disarm. Nothing has been done about it. Surely it is time that the western nations did something about carrying out this excellent Russian suggestion."

How could anyone write such a note, if he was familiar with the conquests of the Russians, with the well-known fact that the Russian army was even then still mobilized to a far greater degree than that of any other country in the world, and that a bristling Iron Curtain had been established around the Russian conquests? He must have been very naive!

Recently congressional investigators have been examining the names which appear on the letterheads of communist front organizations. It is amazing how frequently the names of prominent leaders of the National Council of Churches have appeared in these lists. They may try to explain it away as they choose, but the evidence is overwhelming. Whether willfully or ignorantly, many of them have been only too glad to give their names to be used by agencies acting as fronts for Moscow.

A book has recently been published by Harper Brothers, entitled *The Christian Hope and the Task of the Church*. This book consists of surveys prepared by commissions of the World Council of Churches to give material for the actions which should be taken at Evanston. As one looks through this book, he finds many statements which ridicule the idea that individual salvation is important, and say that this is a selfish attitude. Especially in the last section, there are many vague phrases about Christ, but nothing positive about Jesus having died as a vicarious sacrifice that men might be saved through simple faith in Him. Instead, there is constant discussion of what the churches must do to improve the social conditions of the world. In the course of any book written since the Korean war, it is quite natural to find some opposition to communism expressed. Here it is expressed, however, mostly in the form of a few little wrist-slaps on communism as it is today, while the main thrust of the book is support of a dynamic which is very close to the dynamic of the communist leaders.

If further proof were needed of the fact that this religion is actually still the dominant one in the minds and hearts of many of the leaders of the World Council,

an immediate answer would be found in their insistence on bringing to this country men from behind the Iron Curtain to be prominent spokesmen at their gathering in Evanston. No one, of course, would object to giving men from behind the Iron Curtain a chance to express their own ideas fully and freely. We would be only too glad to hear free expressions of the opinions of thinking people. But anyone who knows the tyrannical system of communism realizes that the men who come to any conference as delegates from behind the Iron Curtain come with their families kept as hostages. Such men are well aware that if they say anything which is not thoroughly in line with the desires of their oppressors, they themselves will go to prison on their return, and their families will be cruelly tortured. These men come not as free agents, but as prisoners of the Kremlin, under compulsion to say exactly what is desired. They are like the victims of the purge trials in Russia, who, with fixed eyes and a glassy stare, confessed the most terrible crimes, hoping against hope that their families might not be subjected to the cruel torture which they knew would otherwise await them. Some speakers may be of this type; others may be men whom the communists have forced upon the church as bishops and leaders, in order to utilize this opportunity of speaking for communism. To give these men the sounding board of the World Council for this propaganda is inconceivable, unless some of the leaders of the World Council are themselves in sympathy with the purpose of the Kremlin.

VI. Our Only Hope—the Historic Faith

In this situation which may lie ahead of us, the historic Christian faith offers the only hope.

The more we look at communism the more we thank God for the historic Christian faith. Contrast the heartlessness of communism with the kindness of Christianity. Contrast the interest of communism only in the state and in the mass, with the love of Christ for the individual. Contrast the attitude of communism, ready ruthlessly to plunge millions of people into blood and misery for the sake of its ideological purposes, with the kindly shepherding care of true Christianity. Surely the contrast is really between two religions, one of them Satan-inspired, the other taught by the Creator of the universe.

We have observed the rise of communism and its great increase of power. We have noted its hostility to the preaching of the Gospel in the lands under its sway. We have seen its terrible threat of unprecedented misery for the entire world, if our governments fail to act now. If it were not for the Christian faith, we might well despair. But we look at the Bible, and we find reason for hope. Some of the statements in the Book of Revelation, such as of a third of the inhabitants of the world being destroyed in one hour, seemed fantastic and unbelievable a few years ago. Today, with nuclear weapons, they are no longer impossible. The expressions of some of the parts of the Book of Revelation may well be a picture of communist attack and communist aggression ahead for us. We cannot say for sure whether that is what is pictured in these parts of the great book of the Apostle of John or not. This we can say, that Revelation, like the rest of the Bible, plainly teaches that God is on the throne. Satan could not move an inch unless God permitted. Communism cannot destroy one soul or wreck the life of one man, except as God permits. God is controlling all things. Though it may be hard to understand them now, we know that His purposes are best. We know that He makes all things to work together for good to those who love Him. Turmoil and torture, pain and possible death, may lie ahead of us, if our nations allow the communist menace to grow to the point where it can unleash irresistible terror upon us. It is only in Christ that we can have confidence and hope.

The Christian knows that God

has a plan, and that His plan is going to work. He knows that when man has done his worst, God will step in and put things to right. He knows that our Lord Jesus Christ will descend from Heaven with a shout, at a time which has not been revealed to us.

The historic Christian faith offers the best promise of alleviating those conditions which promote communism, and would do so in the countries under the heel of Roman Catholicism, if it could be freely preached there. It offers the hope of eternal life to those enslaved by communism, if only the force that holds them in bondage might be destroyed, so that it would again be possible for us to send missionaries who would be permitted freely to preach the Gospel in the lands behind the Iron Curtain. If the political leaders of the free nations, through fear or treachery, fail at their task, and communism gains such strength that its armies become able to sweep everything before them, we can still have hope in Christ and know that His purpose is best. In this terrible situation which may lie ahead of us, if our elected leaders fail to do their duty, the historic Christian faith offers the only hope.

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